هكذا من الاصل





# THE TIMES

40p

http://www.the-times.co.uk

No. 66,119 SATURDAY FEBRUARY 7 1998


# Blair rides to the rescue

## Clinton wounded by secretary's evidence

FROM BRONWEN MADDOX AND PETER RIDDELL IN WASHINGTON

TONY BLAIR stormed to the rescue of his "colleague and friend" President Clinton yesterday as devastating new revelations in the Monica Lewinsky scandal hit the beleaguered White House.

In a highly-charged joint appearance intended to be a high point in Mr Blair's three-day visit, Mr Clinton stuck rigidly to a scripted legal formula as he stonewalled questions about reports that his personal secretary had given potentially damning evidence to the independent prosecutor, Kenneth Starr.

Mr Clinton's secretary, Betty Currie, is reported to have told Mr Starr that the President had been alone with Monica Lewinsky in the White House on several occasions, and that in a private meeting on a Sunday he had coached Mrs Currie to say otherwise.

Mrs Currie's remarks, reported in *The New York Times*, could offer the prosecutor independent corroboration needed to support allegations that the President had an affair with the former trainee when she was 21.

The President and Hillary Clinton were preoccupied with the breaking story throughout Thursday night's glittering gala dinner at the White House, and yesterday Mr Clinton found himself under a barrage of questions about the Lewinsky saga during the news conference.

But Mr Blair went to his aid at every opportunity, repeatedly trying to deflect questioners onto Iraq, Northern Ireland and the strength of the American economy. The result was 45 minutes of high drama broadcast live across the nation.

The two leaders stood close together, in near-identical dark suits and ties, facing the ranks of interrogators, and as the President came under assault, the Prime Minister endorsed him as "someone I'm proud to call not just a colleague but a friend".

Mr Clinton said that he was grateful for Mr Blair's support "when it would have been just as easy to walk away". In the meeting's one moment of spontaneous humour, Mr Clinton asked, laughing, "You ask did I appreciate it? (Mr Blair's support). No — he should have come here and jumped all over me."

And when the two leaders left the White House East Room, Mr Clinton turned to Mr Blair and said: "I'm going to make sure you're proud of what you did in there."

Inside the East Room, Mr Clinton had stood tensely, rebutting each question with "I do not believe I should answer specific questions" or "I do not have anything to add to my earlier statements". He argued that "unlike the other side", he was not prepared to comment while formal investigations were continuing.

Repeating that "I never asked anyone to lie", the President added that he was "pleased" that Mrs Currie's lawyer had stated "unambiguously" that she was not aware of any "legal or ethical impropriety".

His greatest test came from a simple question: "Monica Lewinsky's life has been changed forever. I wonder how you feel about that? What would you say to Monica Lewinsky at this minute?". Hands jammed in pockets, the President paused for a moment and smiled before saying: "That's good. That's a good one. But at this minute I'm going to stick with my position, I'm not commenting."

The White House is considering whether to take legal action in response to the flood of leaks from Mr Starr's investigation and from testimony in Paula Jones's sexual harassment case against the President. Mr Clinton said yesterday that "the judge's order has been routinely violated by the other side".

Many concluded yesterday that the source of the revelations about Mrs Currie's testimony — attributed by *The New York Times* to lawyers "familiar with Mrs Currie's account" — was within Mr Starr's team.

While the Lewinsky saga eclipsed the leaders' desire to highlight their joint tough stance towards Iraq, Mr Blair was able to announce that eight Tornado GR1 aircraft would be deployed to Kuwait in the next few days as a precautionary measure.

Mr Clinton said that the objective of any military action would be "to reduce substantially Saddam Hussein's capacity to develop weapons of mass destruction and to deliver them on his neighbours".

Mr Blair said: "What is essential is that we focus on the issues we were elected to focus on. The judgment of history upon us will be pretty poor if those weren't the things that, when we go to bed at night, we're thinking about."


Blair's feast, page 12
Office stalwart, page 13
Leading article, page 23


RICK WILKING/REUTERS



A questioner challenges President Clinton at his press conference with Tony Blair

### US jets collide over the Gulf

**Two US Marine Corps fighter jets collided over the Gulf about 30 miles off the Kuwait coast during a training flight yesterday, Pentagon officials said. Both pilots were rescued and flown back to the aircraft carrier *USS George Washington*, said Major David Lapan, a Marine Corps spokesman. The carrier is one of three on patrol in the Gulf. *(AP)***




## Iraqi generals 'ready to topple Saddam'

FROM MICHAEL THEODOULOU IN NICOSIA

IRAQI army commanders would rebel against President Saddam Hussein if they were convinced an allied attack was aimed at removing him from power, Iraq's former head of military intelligence said yesterday. He believes that a ten-day aerial bombing campaign would be sufficient and that Western ground forces would not be needed.

"Commanders suspect the US and the UK don't want Saddam to stay, but they need a clear message," Wafiq al-Samarrai told *The Times*. "If they bomb his presidential palaces, communication centres and Baghdad TV and Radio, all commanders would get the message and some would move against him."

Mr al-Samarri fled Iraq in 1994 after being suspected of plotting against Saddam, but he has maintained high-level contacts in Baghdad. But his assessment of disaffection among senior army officers differs from that of American defence analysts who believe that Saddam could not be ousted without flooding Iraq with allied troops.

Iraq has repeatedly expressed fears that any American-led military action would be aimed at toppling Saddam. The state-run media yesterday accused "the odious Tony Blair" of going to Washington to plan an attack. The regime's suspicions will be increased by Washington's decision to send 2,200 marines to the Gulf.


Tornados to Kuwait, page 2
Simon Jenkins, page 22
Weekend, page 1


- *The Times* gained more new readers in the final six months of 1997 than any other national daily newspaper. It was read by an average of 2.1 million readers a day, according to the National Readership Survey.
- As the *Daily Telegraph* lost 100,000 readers, *The Times* gained 100,000 new readers.
- On the two most crucial tests for advertisers, readership among the affluent ABC1s and young readers under the age of 45, *The Times* is advancing.
- More than half the readers of *The Times* are under 45 compared with only one in three of the *Daily Telegraph*. *The Times* now has nearly 300,000 more young readers than the *Daily Telegraph*.
- Eighty five per cent of *Times* readers are ABC1s. Their numbers increased by 6 per cent in the last half of 1997 compared with a drop of 3 per cent for the *Daily Telegraph*.
- For lively, quality news and comment, more and more readers recognise there is no better choice than *The Times*.

*Raymond Snoddy, page 4*
*Peter Stothard, page 22*


WEATHER ..... 32
CROSSWORD ..... 32
COURT & SOCIAL ..... 24
LETTERS ..... 23
OBITUARIES ..... 25
SIMON JENKINS ..... 22
THEATRES ..... 21
BUSINESS NEWS ..... 27-31
UNIT TRUSTS ..... 48
SHARE PRICES ..... 26
MONEY ..... 49-64
SPORT ..... 33-44
WEEKEND
GARDENING ..... 8-10
PROPERTY ..... 13, 14
TRAVEL ..... 23-33
FAITH ..... 22


### U-turn on jobless

**The Government has abandoned plans to make newly unemployed people wait a week rather than three days to claim the jobseekers' allowance. The change, first proposed by the Tories to save up to £65 million a year, was due to come into effect next year. It will now be reconsidered as part of the overall welfare review.**

### Sri Lanka bomb

**A bomb exploded in central Colombo, hours after the Prince of Wales left Sri Lanka amid the tightest security seen in the island's capital. The explosion was a message of defiance from the Tamil Tiger rebels, demonstrating that nowhere is safe from its suicide bombers ..... Page 16**


Buying The Times overseas
Austria Sch 60; Belgium B Frs 110; Canada $3.50; Canaries Pts 325; Cyprus C£1.20; Denmark Dkr 18.00; Finland Fmk 36.50; France F 18.00; Germany DM 4.50; Gibraltar 90p; Greece Dr 900; Netherlands Fl 6.50; Italy L 4,500; Luxembourg Lf 100; Madeira Esc 350; Malta 45c; Morocco Dir 40.00; Norway Kr 30.00; Portugal con Esc 350; Spain Pts 325; Sweden Skr 35.00; Switzerland S Frs 5.50; Tunisia Din 3,200; USA $3.50.

9 770140 046466 06


## Town hall loyalty test for Labour

BY NICHOLAS WOOD AND MARK HENDERSON

A PURGE of left-wing and corrupt Labour councillors was launched last night by John Prescott in an attempt to stop town hall extremism and sleaze undermining confidence in the Government.

Candidates for the 1999 local elections will be required to pass a "loyalty test" as party officials try to weed out potential critics of Tony Blair. For the first time candidates will also be required to disclose personal information, such as criminal convictions, as the party attempts to eliminate scandals.

Speaking to the Labour local government conference in Scarborough, the Deputy Prime Minister admitted that his party's monopoly of power in dozens of local authorities had led to corruption and misconduct.

"There are problems in local government," Mr Prescott said. "In some cases we are the victims of our own successes. A huge one-party majority can lead to internal strife, complacency and, in a few cases, a failure in public standards."

Councillors were given details of a new system of vetting candidates for the 1999 council elections — the crucial mid-term test of popularity in which 90 per cent of the electorate will have a vote.

Every local Labour party will have to set up panels of respected members to vet candidates, including sitting councillors, and draw up shortlists. Final selection will be on a one-member, one-vote basis and party chiefs are going to great lengths to break the traditional power of small cliques.

Full-time Labour officials are to train the selection panels in how to spot likely troublemakers.

The clean-up, which affects all of Labour's record 10,800 councillors as well as would-be newcomers, follows years in which the party leadership has been regularly embarrassed by sleaze and extremism at town hall level. Inquiries into alleged malpractice are under way in Glasgow, Paisley, South Tyneside, Hull, Doncaster, Birmingham, Coventry and Hackney. Some councils, such as Hackney, have been crippled by factional infighting. Others, such as Glasgow and Doncaster, have been mired in allegations of junketing, expenses fiddles and corrupt deals with developers.

☐ Ways of reviving local democracy and increasing councillors' accountability will be set out in a green paper on Monday. Proposals include annual elections for one third or one quarter of all councillors, changing the time and place of polling and sharpening the distinction between the executive and representative functions of councillors.

## London Stock Exchange to be curbed

THE Government is seeking the power to remove the London Stock Exchange's authority to regulate company listings.

Alistair Darling, the Chief Secretary to the Treasury, said the forthcoming Bill on financial regulation will include a clause to allow the Government to transfer the job to the Financial Services Authority, the new super-regulator.

Mr Darling said the LSE was currently operating "satisfactorily" and will carry on as the listing authority. The move is seen as a warning that the Exchange must become more efficient ..... Pages 27, 29

## A nasty back seat shock for crocked croc cop

BY SIMON DE BRUXELLES

HE WAS the least grateful victim of a car accident the police in Wales had ever rescued.

Scipio, a 5ft crocodile, lay on the back seat scowling at officers who were called after his owner drove off the road. The policemen drew lots to decide who would help to lift out the agitated reptile's cage.

Scipio would have been even less anxious to continue the journey if he had known where he was going.

Eugene Granat, a wildlife park owner, was taking the croc to the vet to be circumcised when his car crashed over an embankment, ending up with its front wheels hanging over a 4 ft drop.

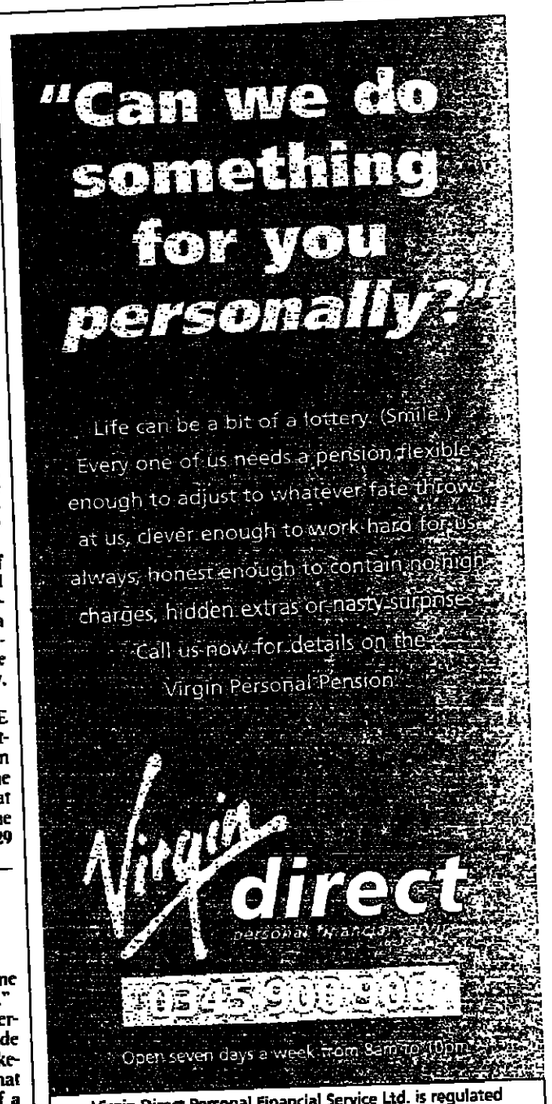
Mr Granat said: "I felt a bit sorry for the officer who discovered Scipio in the car. I tried to warn him but he just opened the door and came face to face with a crocodile. I was very anxious to get him out of the car quickly because it was very cold and that could have killed him."

The startled policemen found the crocodile swishing his tail in his cage on the back seat. One of them helped Mr Granat to carry five-year-old Scipio to a police van which took it to the vet where it had the operation. A crane was called to haul the damaged car from the embankment in Haverfordwest, Pembrokshire.

Mr Granat, a former African game warden, said: "I was worrying about Scipio having the operation and I took a wrong turning down a one-way street. I tried to turn around but I crashed. I am a good driver on the wide open plains of Africa but put me on a narrow road and I'm hopeless."

Scipio, named after a Roman general, is a favourite at the Stepaside Animal Park near Tenby, Pembrokeshire, which is owned by Mr Granat and his wife Josie. He is a star of a daily demonstration which also includes snakes, scorpions and spiders. The highlight is Mr Granat putting his head inside Scipio's jaws.

Scipio needed the operation after scraping his delicate undercarriage along the ground.


Virgin Direct Personal Financial Service Ltd. is regulated by the Personal Investment Authority. The price of units and any income from them can go down as well as up and you may not get back the amount invested. The basis of tax may change and the value of the tax benefit depends on how much tax you pay. For your security, all calls are recorded and randomly monitored.

All next week in THE TIMES



The most searching investigation yet of the relationship between Dodi Fayed and Diana, Princess of Wales – and the events that led to their deaths

● Could Princess Diana have been saved?
● The truth about the ring
● Was it murder?



PLUS
● The budding romance
● The role of Mohamed Al Fayed
● Their plans for a future together

# Britain orders more Tornados to Kuwait

## Robin Cook has been persuaded that time is running out, writes Michael Binyon

WITHIN hours of Robin Cook's talks with Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmad al-Sabah, the Emir of Kuwait, Britain announced yesterday that it was sending eight Tornado bombers to the Gulf state.

George Robertson, the Defence Secretary, said in a parliamentary answer that the decision had been taken "in view of the continuing refusal of the Iraqi regime to comply fully with the requirements of the United Nations Security Council". He said the fighters would be sent as a "further precautionary measure" and would be deployed in the next few days.

The Foreign Secretary, after his Gulf whirlwind visit, announced wide-ranging agreement with Kuwait on the seriousness of the crisis, warning President Saddam Hussein that he alone would have responsibility for any Western military action and would bear the consequences. These, Mr Cook hinted, could lead to an uprising and Saddam's overthrow. Mr Cook was due last night to brief Madeleine Albright, the American Secretary of State, on the substantial understanding he secured in Kuwait and Saudi Arabia for the hardening Western position.

He tried to tell her the details of the agreements he won from Sheikh Jaber and Prince Saud al-Faisal, the Saudi Foreign Minister, immediately on arrival in Britain, but found that she was attending the White House banquet for Tony Blair. Yesterday he announced that Derek Fatchett, the Foreign Office Minister, would fly to the Middle East next week for talks with the leaders of Egypt, Oman and the United Arab Emirates.

Six Tornado bombers are based in Saudi Arabia and six more in Turkey. The strength of Saudi Arabia's statement backing allied attempts to force Saddam to open all sites to United Nations inspectors has pleased and surprised the West. Officials made clear that no one is expecting the Saudis to endorse explicitly the use of force in advance, especially given public concern over the suffering of the Iraqi people.

But Britain's warnings of the dangers from Saddam's biological and chemical arsenal are beginning to have an effect.

SAMMY DALLAL / US NAVY



A Tomcat on board *USS George Washington*, ready for Gulf patrol

So, too, are the reports of Saddam's cruelty. Mr Cook said that in the past two months Saddam's son Qusay had ordered the execution of at least 1,200 prisoners, including all political prisoners who had served 15 years or more.

It is clear that the Saudis are now ready to give backing to the allies if they see that the West has left no diplomatic stone unturned to negotiate a solution. In Kuwait, where the mood is tenser and the apprehension palpable, there is less worry about Iraqi suffering, especially by those whose homes were looted by Iraqi soldiers during the 1991 occupation.

During his Gulf visit Mr Cook telephoned Yevgeni Primakov, the Russian Foreign Minister, to see what progress President Yeltsin's special envoy in Baghdad had made. He said both agreed on the need to press Saddam to specify the still vague proposals that some presidential sites might be open to UN inspectors. But there must be a written text.

Britain will keep in touch with the French, Russian and other envoys shuttling to Baghdad. But Mr Cook's Gulf tour has convinced him that time is running out and that Britain must prepare for war.

# Moscow unveils fresh offer from Saddam

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

PRESIDENT Saddam Hussein is prepared to allow UN arms inspectors unlimited access to all sites in Iraq for one month, on condition that international sanctions against Baghdad are then lifted, according to unconfirmed news reports in Moscow yesterday.

Moscow's mediation efforts led by Viktor Posuvalyuk, the Russian special envoy, have clinched a fresh offer from the Iraqi leader, it was reported.

While full details have not been made public, the offer was relayed to President Yeltsin by telephone on Thursday, which prompted him to predict that he would be able to defuse the current crisis.

Although the offer is an advance on Baghdad's previous proposal for one-time inspection of presidential sites, it still falls far short of the demands by Britain and America that Iraq comply unconditionally with UN resolutions and allow inspectors free access everywhere.

But for Mr Yeltsin, who on Thursday said that the crisis had "peaked", any new offer gives his diplomats breathing space to prolong the dialogue and delay hostilities.

Although most Russians are too busy with their own problems to give much thought to the Middle East, the issue has united most political forces in Moscow, particularly President Yeltsin and his Communist and nationalist opponents in parliament.

For Mr Yeltsin and Yevgeni Primakov, his Foreign Minister, Russian mediation efforts have boosted the country's profile and, in partnership with France and China, have challenged American dominance in global affairs. Mr Yeltsin is hoping for a repeat of last year's successful Russian mediation, which defused the threat of airstrikes by clinching a compromise between Iraq and the UN.

For the opposition-dominated State Duma (parliament), the Gulf crisis has presented a good opportunity to speak out against the West. Tomorrow a parliamentary delegation is heading for Baghdad with some humanitarian aid to show solidarity with the Iraqi leader.

"Our key aim is to achieve a peaceful diplomatic solution to the conflict and prevent the use of force at any cost," said Mikhail Gutseriyev, the Duma's Deputy Speaker.

However, some suspect ulterior motives, particularly since the trip is being led by Vladimir Zhirinovsky, the nationalist leader, who is taking scores of journalists for what is likely to become a huge publicity stunt.

# Gas-mask ban panics tourists

**Jerusalem: Israel's only manufacturer of gas masks has been ordered to halt sales to foreigners, spreading fresh panic among hundreds of thousands of foreign workers and tourists not entitled to join Israeli citizens in the long queues for chemical protection kits (Christopher Walker writes).**

**Rob Elliott, the British Consul in Jerusalem, said: "Many Britons have been upset at the news and have asked that the British Government distribute gas masks to them, but in present conditions we are not able to do that."**

**Western officials are not convinced that Israel can make up the shortfall, which is thought to be why the Home Front Command of the Israel Defence Force told Shalon Chemical Industries to halt sales to private buyers and concentrate on its military contract.**

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Blair braces Britain for two tough years

**Tony Blair said yesterday that Britain faced "two tough years" before people would see the positive results of the Government's new policies. "Very tough decisions have to be taken," he said at a White House press conference with President Clinton. "Welfare reform will not be easy and will be unpopular in certain quarters." Difficult decisions would have to be taken on public spending since it was not possible to carry on increasing it every Budget.**

**He also said it would take time to turn around the problems that the Government had inherited — "inflation back in the system, a structural public deficit and an education and welfare system incapable of matching Britain's needs". Over the next two "tough" years, "the post-euphoria, pre-delivery stage, it will be frustrating".**

### Guardsman shot dead

**Fifty soldiers were questioned yesterday, after a young guardsman was shot in the back during an "escape and evasion" exercise in mid-Wales. Grenadier Guard Richard King, 22, from Kent, was first thought to have died as a result of a car crash. Then, with the discovery of the bullet wound, his death was treated as "suspicious". However, a senior officer at Sennybridge, Powys, said last night the guardsman's death was almost certainly a tragic accident.**

### Vegan father cleared

**The father of a four-month-old boy who died after being put on a vegan diet was cleared yesterday of child cruelty charges. As David Low, 37, left Sheffield Crown Court he said that the baby his new girlfriend, Sharon Brown, is expecting in May would also be fed vegan food. The couple already have a 14-month-old child who has been in care since the case began. The trial collapsed after the judge ruled there was insufficient evidence against Mr Low.**

### Warning to soccer fans

**Visiting fans have been warned they face criminal charges if they violate a one-minute silence to mark the fortieth anniversary of the Munich air crash — in which 23 people including eight football stars died — before today's Premiership fixture between Manchester United and Bolton. Police, who will be monitoring the visitors' seats at Old Trafford, said that anyone disgracing the tribute at 3.04pm could face prosecution and an instant club ban.**

### Vice traps girls under 16

**One in ten women prostitutes in Liverpool started in the sex trade when they were under 16, according to research for a conference staged by the University of Liverpool and Liverpool Hope University College. Three girls aged 13 to 14 were caught soliciting in the city last week. Jo McCullagh, of the University of Liverpool's Public Health Department, said public agencies such as social workers and police needed to co-ordinate strategies.**

### Passengers stage sit-in

**Train passengers held a sit-in after it was announced that their journey from London to Devon was being terminated 100 miles short at Salisbury. Thirty travellers refused to leave their seats to continue to Exeter by taxi or bus, and South West Trains was forced to continue the service. The journey on Wednesday had been delayed by a broken-down train, which took the driver to his maximum recommended hours before he reached the final destination.**

### Climber dies in fall

**A man saw his twin fall to his death as they abseiled down a rockface on Table Mountain. Mark Ryle, of Edinburgh, who had been visiting South Africa with Gavin, said: "I was standing on a ledge and Gavin fell past me." He had run to their car to telephone for help but by the time rescuers arrived Mr Ryle was dead. "I'm devastated. We were very experienced climbers. We made a silly mistake."**

### Balloon sets air record

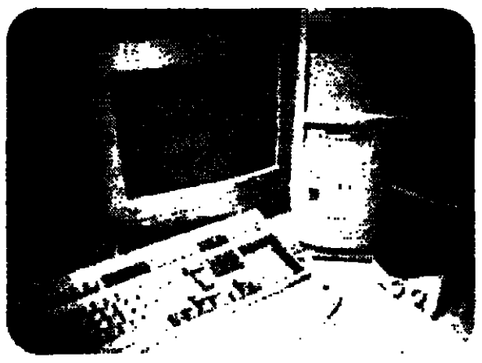
**The *Breitling Orbiter 2* balloon set a record for the longest non-stop, non-refuelled flight by any aircraft when it floated over the Bay of Bengal yesterday morning. Andy Elson, the British engineer, and Bertrand Piccard and Wim Verstraeten, his Swiss and Belgian crew-mates, who had been airborne for nine days, two hours and 14 minutes, are to land in Burma this morning.**

### Lord Pearson of Rannoch

**Lord Pearson of Rannoch was not, as wrongly stated in *The Times Magazine* (January 24), convicted of drunken driving in June 1994, but of refusing to take a breath test. There was no evidence he had consumed alcohol, and we apologise for the error.**

AT LAST!
EUROPEAN PC PRICES ARRIVE IN THE UK!

Figures from leading analysts show that you can pay as much as 30% more for your PC in the UK than in some other European countries. But not any more. Fujitsu, one of the world's largest computer companies with a turnover in excess of $36billion and a market leader in desktop and mobile computing has used its manufacturing economies of scale to bring Continental European prices to the UK!



- Cordant NA-5
- 233MHz Intel Pentium® II processor
- 32 MB SDRAM
- 3D/4MB Graphics Card
- 2GB Hard Disk Drive
- 24x Speed CD ROM
- 16 Bit Soundcard
- 25 Watt Stereo Speakers
- 15" Colour Monitor

£995 inc. VAT



- Cordant NA-6
- 200MHz Intel Pentium® processor with MMX™ technology
- 32 MB RAM
- 3D/2MB Graphics Card
- 2GB Hard Disk Drive
- 24x Speed CD ROM
- 25 Watt Stereo Speakers
- 15" Colour Monitor

£845 inc. VAT



- Myrica NA-7
- 166MHz Intel Pentium® processor with MMX™ technology - (Black desktop)
- 32 MB RAM
- 3D/2MB Graphics Card
- 2GB Hard Disk Drive
- 20x Speed CD ROM
- 12 Watt Stereo Speakers
- 33.6k Fax Modem
- 14" Colour Monitor (Upgrade to 15" Monitor £50)

£699 inc. VAT

Products come with: MS Windows 95, MS Works V4.0, MS Word 97 and FinFin.
One year on-site warranty and free telephone hotline support included

The Intel Inside® logo and Pentium® are registered trademarks and MMX™ is a trademark of Intel Corporation.

All major credit cards accepted. Finance Terms Available. Subject to status.

Sat 9-5pm Sun 10.30-4pm Weekdays 9-8pm Delivery £25 + VAT

Call this number to order your multimedia PC

0181 286 2222

TechDirect, Unit 20 Red Lion Business Park, Red Lion Road, Surbiton, Surrey KT6 7QD

FUJITSU

PCs • NOTEBOOKS • SERVERS

C1a S.T.

هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الاصل



# Mrs Scargill's encounter with her son-in-law was the pits

By Paul Wilkinson

WHEN James Logan met his fiancée's parents, they had plenty to talk about. For a start, his future mother-in-law once poured superglue into the lock of his office door.

Mr Logan, 42, is the former under-manager at Grimethorpe colliery in South Yorkshire. His bride-to-be, Margaret, 36, is the daughter of the miner's union president, Arthur Scargill.

Five years ago, Mr Scargill's wife Anne was among miners' wives from the Women Against Pit Closure organisation who invaded the pithead offices. When Mr Logan arrived for work, he found his office door stuck fast. After kicking his way in, he studied a security film which showed a middle-aged blonde woman sneaking along a corridor clutching a




tube of glue. He remembered the face.

Yesterday Mr Logan described his meeting with his fiancée's parents at their home: "I was introduced to her mum, but I already knew her as the woman who had glued my office door shut. When I told Mr Scargill, he just laughed his head off."

Mrs Scargill, 55, said: "That first meeting was quite embarrassing for all of us."

After the pit closed, Mr Logan became practice manager at Barnsley Ashville Medical Centre, where Margaret Scargill worked as a GP. Now they are all working together on planning the marriage later this year, after the couple have visited Australia.

Ken Hancock, the former NUM branch secretary at the Grimethorpe pit, said: "Jimmy's a good lad. I hope they'll be very happy together. He came to Grimethorpe after the strike in 1984 as a roof-bolter, what they now give the poncey name of 'technical support'. He worked underground and later had an office at the pit-head."

Mr Hancock, who now runs the Red Rum pub opposite the gates of the pit which closed in 1993, said: "We've all had a joke about Arthur's family joining the management and whether he will be at the wedding, but I'm sure he will. It is his daughter after all."

It is thought unlikely that the award-winning Grimethorpe Colliery Band will play at the nuptials. Ken Hirst, a trustee, said: "As far as I know, we have not had any request to perform. I don't think Arthur would ask us. He didn't seem to have much time for the band and frankly he was not very popular in Grimethorpe at the end."

Three years ago, Margaret Scargill was engaged to marry Justin Maitland, the son of Australia's United Mine-



Grimethorpe Colliery, where Anne Scargill glued shut the door of Mr Logan's office



The Scargills with their daughter Margaret at university in 1992. Mrs Scargill says: "The meeting was quite embarrassing for all of us"

workers President John Maitland, whom she met when he was playing rugby for Sheffield Eagles' second team and she was a medical student. For a while they lived in her detached bungalow five miles from the Scargills' home while she worked in a Leeds hospital. However, her parents were said to be unhappy about the wedding. An Australian weekly magazine even quoted Mr Maitland as saying: "Scargill and his wife are not happy about it. It is surprising given their background but they seem to regard colonials with some disdain."

The vicissitudes of courtship are not unknown to the Scargill family. Mr Scargill once disclosed during a speaking tour that a broken engagement had preceded his marriage.

He met a woman during a visit to France and developed a passion for red wine and bread, among other things. The liaison ended after three years. It was while he was in France that he saw and developed a lasting affection for Leonardo's painting of the Mona Lisa. He first met the future Mrs Scargill when he was 23 and she was a 19-year-old electrical winder. On their first date, he took her for a ride on his motorbike, but the next time they met she was introduced to his political life. He took her to hear him speak in a debate on the Common Market.

They married in 1981. Margaret, 36, is their only child, but at one time they kept three geese. Gadaffi, Gorbachev and Gromyko. Mrs Scargill has worked in a Co-op accounts department for 32 years and admits to becoming politically active during the 1972 miners' strike, organising meetings and rallies. During the 1984 strike, she stood shoulder to shoulder with miners and their wives on picket lines and helped to run a soup kitchen.

Since then, she has been involved in sit-ins at threatened pits, and tried to disrupt opencast mining. She has been arrested twice, and spent time at peace protests including Greenham Common. She is standing in a by-election on Barnsley Council as candidate for the Socialist Labour Party, launched by her husband last year.

She once said of her private life: "Arthur never interferes. He recognises that I'm a person in my own right. The only thing we have in common is a love of dogs and, I suppose, our politics. I only hope he votes for me.

"I like to rock and roll, he doesn't. I like holidays, he doesn't. I have to go to Benidorm with with the girls. I'm outgoing, whereas Arthur, when he's not performing, is very shy and reserved."

# Police dog dies as man shoots PC and woman

By Stephen Farrell

A POLICE dog was shot dead and his handler and a woman wounded during a domestic dispute yesterday.

Bryn, a four-year-old German shepherd with Northamptonshire Police, was hit by a bullet from a .22 rifle. His handler, PC Ian Churms, 33, who has received five commendations for bravery and professionalism, was last night being treated in hospital for a bullet lodged in his right leg above the knee. Susan Sturgess, who was shot in the shoulder, was released from hospital.

PC Churms and Bryn, together with two other officers, were called to a dispute at a house in an affluent area of Irthlingborough shortly after midnight. When they arrived the dispute was over and the man involved had left, a police spokesman said. However, while PC Churms was talking with Mrs Sturgess, a 42-year-old divorcée and the owner of the house, the man returned in a car with a rifle.

The spokesman said that as he climbed from the car shouting threats, PC Churms, who was unarmed, unleashed Bryn. The gunman opened fire, killing Bryn with one shot and injuring PC Churms and Mrs Sturgess before running into another house where he was disarmed by two off-duty officers who lived there.

Carl Shearman, a neighbour, said he was woken by a dog barking and the noise of a car. He had looked out of his window to see Mrs Sturgess's daughter, Clare, run from the house towards three officers, who bundled her into a police car and reversed at high speed.

The 16-year-old engineering student went on: "I saw a uniformed policeman running down the road holding a cloth to his right leg. He was hopping along, trying to get away from the house."

Other witnesses saw Mrs Sturgess run into the house next door, where the off-duty police officers lived, closely followed by the gunman. "We heard what sounded like two more shots and breaking glass," one said. "The next thing we knew there were police and ambulances everywhere and the man with the rifle was lying down on the driveway on his stomach surrounded by police. No-one saw the dog."

Chris Fox, the Chief Constable, said the suspect held a firearms certificate for the rifle. "It was a routine incident which became extraordinary. No-one could have predicted the way it turned out. Bryn died doing his duty, trying to protect his handler and a member of the public. We are just thankful that no-one else was killed." Bryn had a Chief Constable's commendation.

Last night, a man aged 32 was being questioned at Wellingborough police station.




PC Ian Churms and his dog Bryn, who was killed by a single rifle shot while protecting his handler

# Council sweeper cleans up on pay day

By Russell Jenkins

**AN investigation has been ordered after the local government spending watchdog found a street cleaner earning £25,000 for sweeping the streets in Liverpool.**

**He is one of 17 sweepers in the council's cleansing department earning around £20,000. The auditor's report identified high levels of overtime for working nights and weekends. He also condemned the state of the city's streets: "The service is characterised by high cost and variable quality."**

**The sweeper, who has not been named, is a night-shift worker in the city centre. He benefited from a scheme that allowed council employees to move to a different job within the public services and retain the same pay. The scheme has been abolished and the council is reviewing the bonus system.**

**At the time of the district auditor's inquiry early last year, the average earnings in the department was £15,000, compared with a national average of about £11,000. The council said that the level had now fallen to £11,300.**

**Peter Tyrell, Labour chairman of the contract services board, said: "I do not see what is wrong with a man who cleans the streets earning £25,000. If he was anything other than a street cleaner no-one would have said a word."**

# Unwanted guest kidnapped

## Hotel tried to scare off downmarket client, reports **Simon de Bruxelles**

A HOTEL owner arranged for an "irritating" guest to be kidnapped in an attempt to scare him away, a court was told yesterday.

David Maslin wanted to attract a more upmarket clientele to the Moorland Hotel in the Cardiganshire fishing village of Aberporth. But 53-year-old John Jeremy was reluctant to give up the comfort of his £17.50-a-night room, paid for by the Department of Social Security.

The drastic solution to the guest who had outstayed his welcome was suggested by George Middleton, a travelling salesman, who overheard Maslin complaining in the hotel bar.

Swansea Crown Court was told that Middleton, 44, suggested having Mr Jeremy kidnapped and found two men at Banwell Village Social Club, Co Durham, who agreed to carry out the abduction in August for £500 cash and a night at the hotel. Kevin Riordan, for the prosecution, said that Mr Jeremy awoke in his room, number 102, to find two strangers at the foot of his bed. "He was frightened. One of them picked up a Stanley knife and told him to get dressed."

The men, who have never been traced, told Mr Jeremy not to bother packing. The kidnappers drove him 20 miles to a field off the Aberaeron to Aberystwyth road. He was ordered out of the car, pinned against a gate and "left in no doubt that he had to leave the premises", Mr Riordan said. Afterwards Mr Jeremy flagged down a passing police car and told the officers what had happened.

Mr Riordan said Maslin, who occupied room 101, had taken over the hotel ten months earlier. The two men were heard arguing and the court was told that Mr Jeremy's electricity had been cut off and his mail tampered with.

Maslin and Middleton admitted kidnapping. Gareth Thomas, for 58-year-old Maslin, said Mr Jeremy had been "irritating" but that did not excuse what his client had done. "He had tried to raise the standards of the hotel and wanted to move people he considered undesirable. This was a wild aberration in his behaviour."

Judge Hugh Williams said kidnapping normally led to an immediate jail sentence. "But you are not gangsters. Although this case is serious, it is also ludicrous."

Maslin, who still runs the hotel, was given a nine-month suspended jail sentence and Middleton, of Durham, a six-month suspended sentence. Mr Jeremy has left the hotel.



If you'd like to know more about our unique whiskey, write to us for a free booklet at the Jack Daniel Distillery, Lynchburg, Tennessee 37352 USA.

YOU'RE LOOKING AT the difference between Jack Daniel's Tennessee Whiskey and a Kentucky bourbon.

At our distillery in the Tennessee hills, we burn ricks of hard maple until they become charcoal. Then we trickle our whiskey, drop by drop, through that charcoal to mellow its flavor. Some folks call Jack Daniel's a "bourbon," but the U. S. Government says our charcoal mellowing makes us a "Tennessee Whiskey." If you're looking for a difference, we believe one sip will tell you all you need to know.




JACK DANIEL'S TENNESSEE WHISKEY

# Artful MP attacks new Labour's Stepford Wives

By Nicholas Watt
Political Correspondent


Sedgemore: programme to stay on-message

LABOUR's new intake of women MPs are so fawning towards the party hierarchy that they resemble the Stepford Wives with "chips inserted into their brains to keep them on-message", the veteran left-winger Brian Sedgemore said yesterday.

In an attack on new labour, the MP for Hackney South and Shoreditch said the 65 "Blair babes" elected for the first time on May 1 were no better than the "testosterone morons" who sat in the previous Parliament. Addressing an audience at the Tate Gallery, yards from Labour's nerve centre at Millbank Tower, Mr Sedgemore rounded on the Government for stifling debate within the party.

"Like all new Labour MPs, I've been programmed by Millbank to stay on-message for a thousand years without having my batteries topped up," he said. "As such, I should never admit to have given this talk."

Turning to the influx of women MPs, he said: "Then there's the Stepford Wives. That's those female new Labour MPs who've had the chip inserted into their brain to keep them on-message and who collectively put down women and children in the vote on lone-parent benefits. Few have shown any interest in culture. I hesitate to say it but a new Parliament replete with cultural inadequacies is no better than the old Parliament, replete with artistic testosterone morons."

*The Stepford Wives* was a 1975 cult film in which the men in a small American town turn their wives into life-sized automatons programmed do the housekeeping and devote themselves to their husbands.

Sticking narrowly to his theme, New Labour and the future of Fine Art, Mr Sedgemore used an attack on Tony Blair's interest in art to make a wider point. "New Labour wants art that is as pungent as processed cheese, as soul searching as a conversation between Po, Laa-Laa, Dipsy and the other Teletubby, as original as Dolly the Sheep. As part of the politics of contentment, new Labour wants colours that do not clash, textures that do not distort and shapes which Cubists would not understand."

He also used his theme to mock the Millennium Dome: "Are you prepared to accept new Labour's assertion that the perfect way to sum up 2,000 years of culture is through the Millennium Dome, courtesy of Mickey Mouse and Ryutaro Hashimoto?" Party spokesmen did their best to ignore the speech, saying they did not want to give him the satisfaction of disciplinary action. One source said: "The best punishment will be having to face the MPs he has attacked."

Fellow left-wingers chortled at the comments but new Labour MPs remained uncharacteristically silent. Austin Mitchell, MP for Great Grimsby, said: "I do not know how to react. I've left my pager at home."

Mr Sedgemore did win an unlikely ally. The Conservative MP Ann Widdecombe said: "I am not sure I would be so rude about the Stepford Wives. Positive discrimination has led to a very sub-standard intake of women MPs — they are not up to it."


CHANNEL 4
The Stepford Wives: new Labour's version have "chips inserted into their brains"

# Ministers to oppose controls on price of newspapers

By Raymond Snoddy
Media Editor

THE Government yesterday came out formally against introducing special competition rules to outlaw predatory pricing in the newspaper industry.

Government ministers will oppose an amendment tabled by Lord McNally and Viscount Astor to the Competition Bill when it is debated in the House of Lords on Monday.

The amendment is designed to outlaw conduct by one or more national newspapers which "amounts to an abuse of dominant position" if it would reduce the diversity of the UK press.

The amendment was seen as being aimed at the price promotion policy of *The Times*, part of News International, which has helped to drive the paper's circulation above 800,000. *The Times* recently offered its Saturday edition at a trial price of 20p, the same price as its Monday edition. *The Times* is now 40p on Saturdays and 35p for the rest of the week.

A delegation from the rest of the national newspaper industry has tried to persuade the Government to support the McNally/Astor amendment.

Yesterday the Department of Trade and Industry said there was no case for imposing a different prohibition on the newspaper sector. Among other things, the amendment would define abuse of dominant position as "imposing selling prices below marginal cost of production on a persistent basis".

The DTI said the Government took the issue of predatory pricing, which was bad for the consumer and bad for competition, extremely seriously. Under the new Competition Bill, predatory pricing by any dominant company across the economy would be prohibited automatically.

But, the DTI argued, imposing additional wider prohibitions on just one industry — newspapers — would remove the advantages of harmonising UK competition law with EU law. It would also lead to increased uncertainty and increased regulations.

The DTI added that if any company was engaging in predatory pricing, information should be passed to the Director-General of Fair Trading. The OFT has twice considered, and rejected, complaints against the price-cutting policy of *The Times*.

The McNally/Astor amendment will be opposed by Lord Haskell who looks after DTI matters for the Government in the House of Lords.

Peter Stothard, page 22


Irvine: isolated

# Straw will fight to defeat Irvine on privacy

By Andrew Pierce

**MINISTERS are urgently bringing forward new legislation to prevent a privacy law being introduced by the back door.**

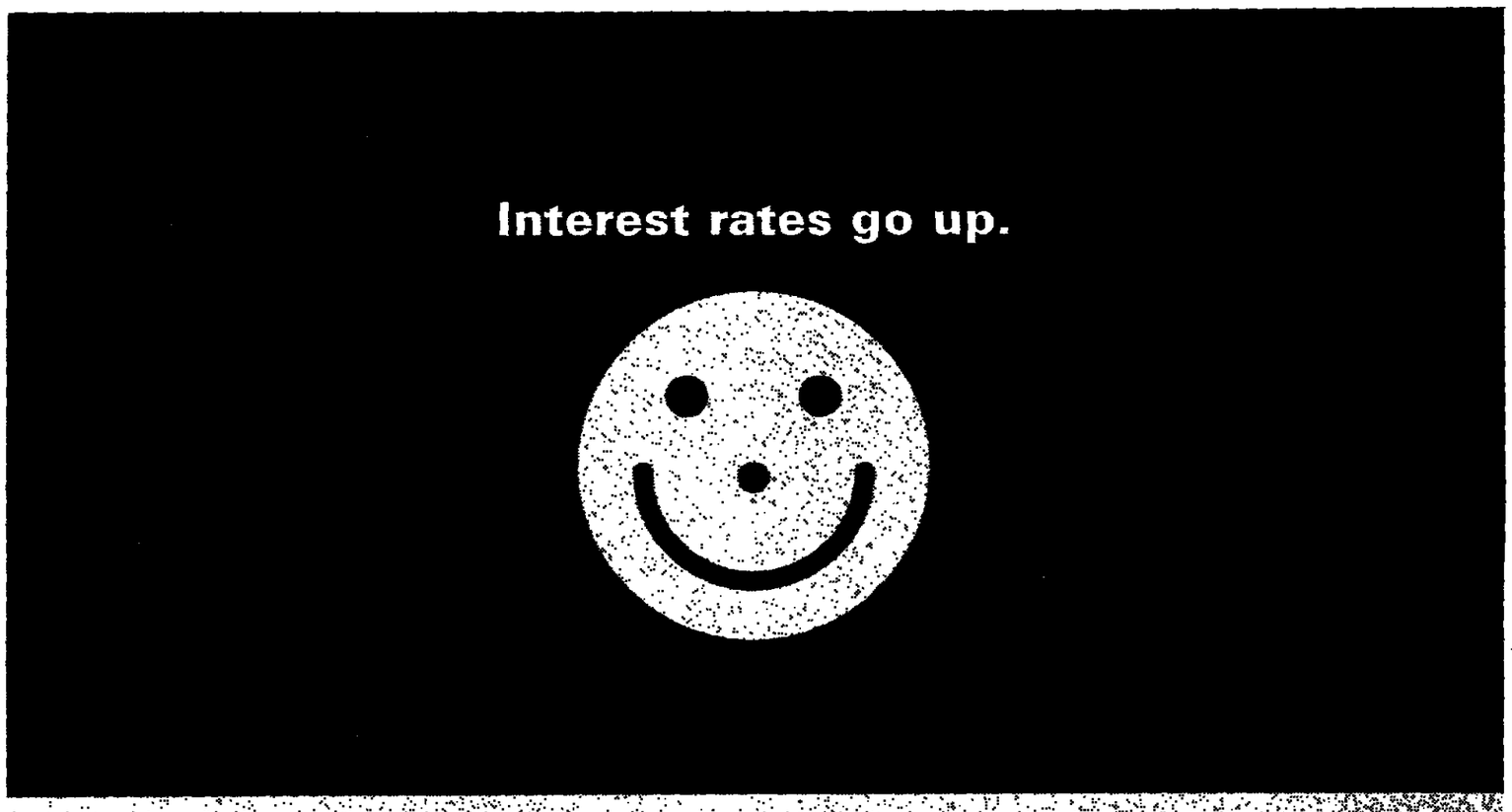
**A decision will be announced within 14 days on the best way to amend the Human Rights Bill, which as it stands will enable public figures to supress certain stories about their private lives.**

**The move will further isolate the Lord Chancellor, Lord Irvine of Lairg, who was publicy rebuked by Downing Street on Thursday for saying he hoped that future press curbs would prevent publication of disclosures such as those about the Foreign Secretary's affair with his Commons secretary.**

**Under the terms of the Human Rights Bill, which completed its Lords stages on Thursday night, people would be able to go to the Press Complaints Commission (PCC) to ask for the suppression of stories that apparently breached their privacy.**

**But a group of ministers led by Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, and Chris Smith, the Culture Secretary, have been fighting behind the scenes to amend the legislation when it comes before the Commons to exclude the PCC. One senior minister said last night: "This is one battle Derry Irvine is not winning."**

**☐ Lord Irvine's troubles deepened yesterday when his department was accused of breaking the sex discrimination laws over the appointment of a man as his special policy adviser. Jane Coker, a solicitor, began industrial tribunal proceedings saying that the job was filled through an "old boy network".**


Whichever way interest rates go, with our capped rate mortgage you'll always be smiling.




First, the good news. If our variable mortgage rate goes up, the rate is capped so you won't pay more than 6.70% (7.1% APR) until 1 March 2002. Now the good news. If our variable mortgage rate drops below 6.70%, so does the rate you pay. So if mortgage rates go up or down, you'll still be happy. To find out more, visit your local Alliance & Leicester branch or call us on 0800 412 214.

ALLIANCE LEICESTER
http://www.alliance-leicester.co.uk

RATE AND APR ARE SHOWN FOR RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGES. APR QUOTED IS FOR MORTGAGES ON AN INTEREST ONLY BASIS. ALTHOUGH OUR CAPPED RATE MORTGAGES ARE ALSO AVAILABLE ON A REPAYMENT BASIS. FOR INTEREST ONLY MORTGAGES AN APPROPRIATE PERSONAL EQUITY PLAN (PEP), PENSION PLAN OR ENDOWMENT POLICY FOR THE AMOUNT AND TERM OF THE LOAN MUST ALSO BE ARRANGED. CONTRIBUTIONS/PREMIUMS WILL BE PAYABLE TO THE COMPANY INVOLVED. THE CAPPED RATE OF 6.70% (7.1% APR) ONLY APPLIES UNTIL 1/3/2002 FOR LOANS OF NO MORE THAN 90% (80% IN THE CASE OF THE SELF-EMPLOYED APPLICANTS) OF THE PURCHASE PRICE/VALUATION (WHICHEVER IS THE LOWER). THE APR'S AND THE TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE HAVE BEEN CALCULATED ON THE BASIS THAT THE VARIABLE RATE WILL BE THE SAME AS THE CAPPED RATE THROUGHOUT THE TERM OF MORTGAGE, IN PRACTICE HOWEVER, AT THE END OF THE CAPPED RATE PERIOD, OUR BASIC VARIABLE RATE (CURRENTLY 8.70% 8.1% APR) WILL BE CHARGED. CAPPED RATE MORTGAGES ARE ONLY AVAILABLE TO NEW CUSTOMERS ON TO EXISTING BORROWERS MOVING HOME. YOUR HOME IS SECURITY FOR THE LOAN AND MUST BE ADEQUATELY INSURED. LOANS ARE SUBJECT TO STATUS AND VALUATION AND ARE ONLY AVAILABLE TO PEOPLE AGED 18 OR OVER. WRITTEN QUOTATIONS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST. A MINIMUM LOAN OF £30,000 APPLIES BUT DOES NOT APPLY TO EXISTING BORROWERS. AN ARRANGEMENT FEE OF 0.5% OF THE LOAN (UP TO A MAXIMUM OF £300) IS PAYABLE UNLESS YOU HAVE RECEIVED AN OFFER OF LOAN. WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO WITHDRAW THIS MORTGAGE OFFER WITHOUT ANY PRIOR NOTICE. FOR LOANS EXCEEDING 75% OF THE PURCHASE PRICE OR VALUATION (WHICHEVER IS THE LOWER) A HIGH PERCENTAGE LOAN FEE WILL BE CHARGED. THE APR QUOTED MAY BE SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT IF YOUR CIRCUMSTANCES DIFFER FROM THE ASSUMPTIONS ON WHICH THE EXAMPLE BELOW IS BASED. RATES AND INFORMATION ARE CORRECT AS AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS IN OUR EXAMPLE. THE TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE INCLUDES VALUATION CHARGE £150.00, ARRANGEMENT FEE £299.00, EXECUTION & MORTGAGE CHARGE £117.50, DEEDS PRODUCTION CHARGE £90.00 AND £90.00 REDEMPTION AND SEALING CHARGE. EXAMPLE 6.70% CAPPED UNTIL 1/3/2002 £62,000 INTEREST ONLY LOAN FOR 25 YEARS ON A PROPERTY VALUED AT £85,000 AT AN INTEREST RATE OF 6.70% (7.1% APR) WITH THE FIRST MONTHLY INTEREST ONLY PAYMENT OF £401.36 (GROSS) (INCLUDING ACCRUED INTEREST) FOLLOWED BY 299 PAYMENTS OF £344.31 (GROSS). TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE INCLUDING £300.00 HIGH PERCENTAGE LOAN FEE IS £148,811.67. IF YOU WANT TO PAY BACK ALL OR PART OF YOUR MORTGAGE, OR TRANSFER TO ANOTHER OF OUR PRODUCTS BEFORE 1/3/2004 A REPAYMENT FEE WILL BE PAYABLE. THIS WILL BE CHARGED AT 3 MONTHS' GROSS INTEREST IF YEARS 1 AND 2, AND 2 MONTHS' GROSS INTEREST IF YEARS 3 TO 5. THE REPAYMENT FEE WILL BE CHARGED AT THE RATE PAYABLE AT THE TIME OF REPAYMENT. IF YOU DO NOT WISH TO TAKE ON THIS KIND OF OBLIGATION YOU MAY PREFER OUR BASIC VARIABLE RATE OR OUR NO REPAYMENT FEE MORTGAGES. FULL DETAILS ABOUT OUR RANGE OF MORTGAGES, THE FEES MENTIONED ABOVE AND ANY CONDITIONS/RESTRICTIONS WHICH APPLY ARE AVAILABLE AT YOUR LOCAL BRANCH. ALLIANCE & LEICESTER MARKETING GROUP, CONSISTING OF ALLIANCE & LEICESTER PLC AND ALLIANCE & LEICESTER LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED, WHICH ARE REGULATED BY THE PERSONAL INVESTMENT AUTHORITY, AND ALLIANCE & LEICESTER UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LIMITED WHICH IS REGULATED BY IMRO. ONLY SELLS ITS OWN LIFE ASSURANCE, PENSION, UNIT TRUST AND PEP PRODUCTS. ALLIANCE & LEICESTER PLC. REGISTERED OFFICE 49 PARK LANE, LONDON W1Y 4EQ. COMPANY NO. 3263713. REGISTERED IN ENGLAND. AUTHORISED AS A BANK PURSUANT TO THE BANKING ACT 1987. MEMBER OF THE BRITISH BANKERS ASSOCIATION. JANUARY 1998

YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN SECURED ON IT.



Last night on the street — tonight both safe at St Mungo's


pic: Bruce Tanner

It probably says a lot about St Mungo's that when we take people off the street, we find room for their best friend too. We make it our policy not to turn anyone away from our hostels if it can be avoided. Being in St Mungo's means a clean, warm bed in a safe haven. And once we accept people we do all we can to rehabilitate, retrain and resettle them. In providing accommodation for over 1000 people a night St Mungo's has set itself very high standards indeed. Will you help us to maintain those standards? We'd be grateful and so would homeless people in London, not to mention their dogs. Please send whatever you can afford, with the coupon below.

I would like to support St Mungo's work with homeless people in London and I enclose a cheque/po for £_____ or please debit my Visa/Access card no._____

Exp.date_____ Signed_____

Name (please print)_____

Address_____

_____

Please send to:
St Mungo's, Freepost, Room 9, Atlantic House, 1-3 Rockley Road, London W14 0BR

Charity exempt from registration (Friendly society No 20598R)

☐ please tick if you prefer us not to pass on your details to other charities

# Laureate tops sales list with new poems

By Erica Wagner, literary editor

TED HUGHES'S most recent volume of poetry, *Birthday Letters*, an autobiographical narrative of his marriage to the American poet Sylvia Plath, has eclipsed *Bridget Jones's Diary* and *The Little Book of Calm* at the top of Britain's bestseller lists.

The Poet Laureate's most recent work, published on January 19, entered Whitaker BookTrack's bestseller chart at number one at the end of its first week on sale, selling more than 5,000 copies. In the following week it sold 20,000 copies, according to Bookwatch, a market research company working for the book trade. To date the hardback has sold 60,000 copies, its publisher says.

The last poet to top the bestseller list was Seamus Heaney in 1996 with *Spirit Level*. Previously the poet Wendy Cope topped the list in 1992 with *Serious Concerns*. The sales of *Brithday Letters* are remarkable for a single volume of poetry — particularly considering that Hughes's *Tales from Ovid*, winner of the 1997 Whitbread Book of the Year award, stands in the BookTrack bestseller charts at number seven. Sales of Plath's work have also increased.

*Birthday Letters* astonished the literary world when its existence was revealed in *The Times* on January 17. For more than 35 years the Poet Laureate had kept silent about his difficult marriage to Plath; she committed suicide in 1963. He had fended off biographers and critics with some ferocity; *Birthday Letters*, composed over the past 25 years, was not a book he was ever expected to write.

Now into its fourth printing, sales of *Birthday Letters* show no sign of slowing, says Matthew Evans, chairman and managing director of its publisher, Faber and Faber. "From the beginning, everyone who saw it thought it was something special," he said. "Sometimes hype is a substitute for quality; but not this time. If we hadn't believed in the book we wouldn't have pushed the boat out in quite the way we did — usually in publishing it's either quality or commerce: it's very exciting when the two can sit together."

Mr Evans spoke of the poet's sense of relief now that the book has been published: "He has finished with the poems and the poems have finished with him."

Near the Hughes family home, in Heptonstall, West Yorkshire — where Sylvia Plath is buried — sales have been equally extraordinary. Peter Tillotson, who has owned and run the Bookcase in Hebden Bridge for 15 years, has never seen anything like it: he has sold 40 full-price copies since the book became available. "That exceeds by four times what I'd expect to sell of any hardback in a period of 12 months. I sold ten copies the first Saturday — before I even had it in the shop."

He was rather taken aback, however, by the book's sudden publication and felt he ought to have been let in on the secret. "There's phenomenal local interest: a lot of people round here knew him and 'must have our Ted's latest book'. We looked foolish for a few hours when we didn't even know about it."

Books, Metro page 15

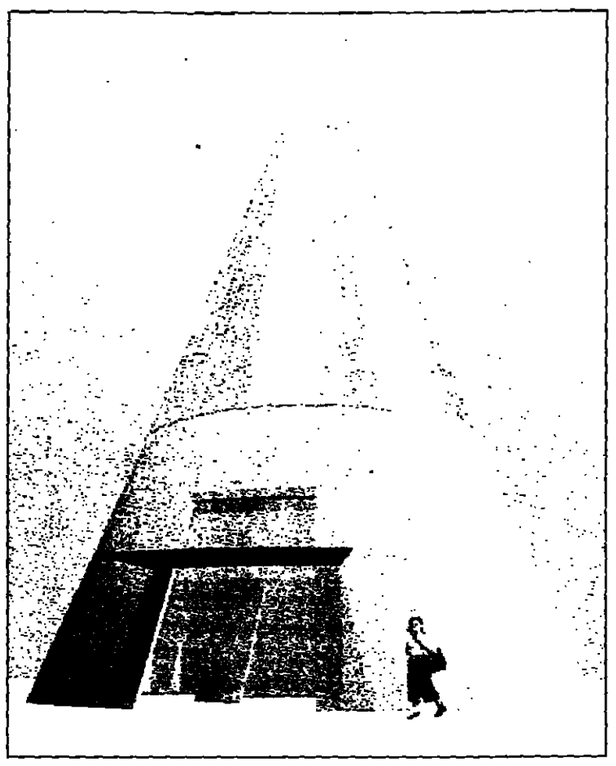


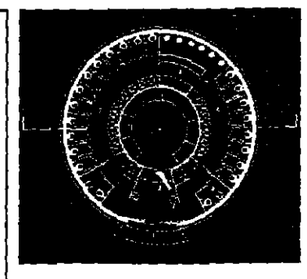
Ted Hughes's bestseller tells of his marriage to American Sylvia Plath



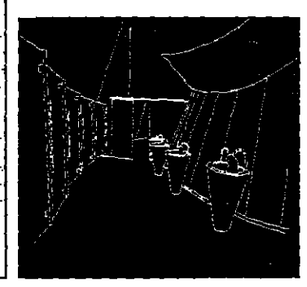


DOUG MARKE





One of the toilet teepee's designers, Ian Griffiths, far left, says that it is designed to allow light to enter the cone, left, during the day, while at night the internal lights will ensure it is a "beacon of relief". The lavatories and washbasins will be arranged on the outer and inner walls, above and below



# Relief at the Dome

## 'Toilet teepees' could well be the shape of conveniences to come, says **David Charter**

EVERY effort is being made to ensure that none of the anticipated 20 million visitors to the Millennium Dome is put to any inconvenience.

Designers are determined not to be outdone by the Great Exhibition of 1851, when George Jennings, a London engineer, astounded Victorians with the world's first flushing public lavatory. To provide 21st century relief at the festival site in Greenwich, southeast London, they are planning "toilet teepees".

Two dozen conical towers, each 20 metres high and dotted around the area outside the Dome, will contain the latest in lavatorial technology, including motion sensitive taps and cubicle doors made of liquid crystal. The glass will appear clear while the stall is unoccupied but turn opaque when the door is locked.

The teepee won a competition run by Armitage Shanks to design "beacons of relief" for the millennium festival. The company's brief advised entrants to rid their minds completely of the conventional public toilet and set a precedent for the 21st century. It added: "The building should be a showcase — a temple of convenience to capture the spirit of the millennium festival."

Jennings's water closets were distributed around London after the Great Exhibition and became prototypes for public conveniences around the country. Similarly, the competition organisers want to uproot the millennium cone conveniences from Greenwich and offer them to towns and cities across Britain after the celebrations.

Ian Griffiths and Sanjay Uzelac, design students at De Montfort University in Leicester, came up with the teepee concept to win the competition. Mr Griffiths, 25, said: "It is a powerful form, like the teepees of the plains Indians, which were also portable and moved around the country.

"We wanted literally to create a 'beacon of relief' so it was not the usual small, flat-roof, square building which gets hidden away. It is a conical-shaped building with a circular base and a glass top to allow light to filter through and the top will ventilate as well."

The lavatories themselves are placed inside the outer wall, with the wash basins on an inner circle wall: they have motion sensors fitted to the taps to conserve water. At the heart of each cone there is an inner sanctum for an exhibition of the history of sanitation.

Sam Woodberry, commercial services manager at Armitage Shanks, said: "The flush toilet as we know it was a product of the last century, inspired by the horrendous death rate from preventable diseases.

"George Jennings installed flush toilets at the Great Exhibition and they were the first public conveniences as we understand them, although his toilets would have been much noisier than toilets today because the mechanism was made of metal. They would not have been plumbed into a sewer, but there would have been a cesspit emptied by night-soil men. The toilet itself would have been off-white earthenware because they had great problems getting the gloss finish we have today.

While Jennings had to charge visitors to the Great Exhibition to recoup the cost of installing his lavatories, which he bore himself, people using the millennium teepees will not be required to spend so much as a penny.




## WOMAN'S ANSWER TO GENTS' PROBLEM

By Nick Nuttall

A SANITATION company has taken up the design for a water-saving urinal devised by a woman entrepreneur.

Valerie Mclean spent three years inspecting gents' lavatories, video camera and notebook in hand, before developing the WhiffAway odourless — and nearly waterless — urinal system. It is to be marketed under licence by Diversey Lever, which will unveil it at an hotel show in London on Monday. Mrs Mclean's invention is an odour-eating, mushroom-shaped device plumbed into the waste outlet. It reduces the number of flushings required by absorbing unpleasant smells.

"I have got facts on urinals coming out of my ears," said Mrs Mclean, who runs Bee Environmental and Greenhills Services from Stoke Poges in Buckinghamshire. "For example, I estimate that there are seven to ten million installed in the country. If you reduce by one flush an hour you are saving on average 108 litres a day. If WhiffAway were installed in every urinal in Britain you would save an amount of water each day equivalent to the needs of London and Paris."



Mclean: expert

Mrs Mclean has pursuaded a number of organisations and businesses, including Kent County Council and the Excelsior Hotel at Heathrow, to install the system. She said that it was also being installed at the Earth Centre in South Yorkshire, a Lottery-funded environmental centre, where it should cut water use by 10 per cent.

# Fans sound out Archers actors

By Anjana Ahuja

FANS of *The Archers*, the Radio 4 soap opera, are being recruited by psychologists at Glasgow University for a study into voice recognition.

Listeners to the programme are thought to be perfect subjects because they are so familiar with the voices of the radio drama's characters. "We tried it out recently and the *Archers* enthusiasts were brilliant," Mike Burton, who is leading the trial, said. "Previous studies into voice recognition have been quite poor, so we have really hit on something."

The investigation should help to discover how brains discriminate between voices. It could also explain why we are much better at recognising faces than voices.

Volunteers will be required to sit in front of a computer, listening to voice clips. They then press one of two buttons, depending on whether they think it is an *Archers* character or not. The time taken to decide, typically less than 1½ seconds, will be measured to the nearest thousandth of a second.

During the experiment the voices will be gradually distorted. It should therefore take longer for the volunteers to make up their minds.

Advertisement

**Thinking of buying a computer?**

Computers are playing an increasingly important part in our lives. But how much should you pay for a system? And how do you know a PC will suit your needs? Help is at hand! Practical, straightforward and reliable, *The Which? Guide to Computers* explains all the jargon. It's ideal for home users and small businesses alike and takes you, step by step, through the buying process.

Using real-life situations to highlight common problems, it tells you • how to avoid costly mistakes, and select sensibly-priced hardware and software that won't be instantly obsolete • how to calculate the true cost of a system • how to get cost-effective user support and maintenance • why 'latest' doesn't always mean 'best' • how to ensure you buy what you need – and not what the salespeople want to sell you.

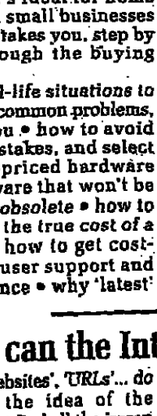
This fact-packed book from Which? gives independent, unbiased advice and is essential reading for anyone planning to buy a computer, or who wants to get the most from their existing system. *The Which? Guide to Computers* costs just £10.99 (P&P FREE). To order, send your name and address, the book title and your payment (cheque made payable to Which? Ltd or credit card number with expiry date) to: Which?, PO Box 89, Dept SP231, Hertford, SG14 1TB. Orders are normally despatched within 14 days of receipt. Full refund if not satisfied.

**What can the Internet do for you?**

'Email', 'websites', 'URLs'... do you like the idea of the Internet but find all the jargon that goes with it baffling? And do you know just how useful the Internet could be for you? At the touch of a button you could have access to news and weather reports, stock market quotations, shopping and banking services, travel and sport. Published by Which?, *The Which? Guide to the Internet* cuts through the terminology and gives clear, non-technical advice on how to make the Internet work for you. Using real-life case histories this invaluable book will help you explore all the possibilities – for business and for pleasure. It looks at • cost-effective access • getting connected • using the Internet to save money on international phone calls • where to find free software and advice. PLUS order now and receive your FREE CD Rom giving you 30 days unlimited access to the Internet and *Which? Online* containing exclusive consumer information from Which?. It also gives you access to member and Which? expert discussion groups, an email address and free webspace.

*The Which? Guide to the Internet* costs just £9.99 (P&P FREE). However, should you subscribe to *Which? Online* after your free trial we'll take the price of the book off your first payment. To order *The Which? Guide to the Internet*, send your name and address with your payment (cheque made payable to Which? Ltd, or credit card number with expiry date) to: Which?, PO Box 89, Dept SP231, Hertford, SG14 1TB. Orders are normally despatched within 14 days of receipt. Full refund if not satisfied.











**...prices from only £24.50**

*per person per night - dinner, bed & breakfast*

£24.50 per person per night

| | |
|---|---|
| Barnstaple | The Imperial |
| Carlisle | The Cumbrian Hotel |
| Carmarthen | Ivy Bush Royal |
| Glasgow | The Carrick |
| Grimsby | St James' Hotel |
| Liverpool | St George's Hotel |
| Llanelli | The Stradey Park |
| Peebles | The Tontine |
| Shaftesbury | The Grosvenor |
| Stourbridge | The Talbort Hotel |
| Tavistock | The Bedford |

£32.50 per person per night

| | |
|---|---|
| Abergavenny | The Angel |
| Aldeburgh | The Brudenell |
| Alton | The Swan |
| Bawtry | The Crown |
| Bedford | Barns Hotel* |
| Beverley | The Beverley Arms |
| Birmingham | Plough and Harrow |
| Birmingham/Hopwood | Westmead Hotel |
| Bognor | The Royal Norfolk |
| Bournemouth | The Roundhouse |
| Bristol | St Vincent Rocks Hotel |
| Cannock | The Roman Way Hotel* |
| Canterbury | Falstaff Hotel |
| Cheltenham | Hotel De La Bere |
| Chepstow | The George Hotel |
| Chester | Hoole Hall |
| Conwy | The Castle Hotel |
| Corby | Rockingham Forest Hotel |
| Coventry | The Chace Hotel |
| Crawley | The George* |
| Crowthorne | The Waterloo |
| Derby | Makeney Hall |
| Dudley | Ward Arms Hotel* |
| East Retford | The West Retford Hotel |

*Offer valid until 22nd March '98*

| | |
|---|---|
| Elstree | Edgwarebury Hotel |
| Exmouth | The Imperial |
| Falmouth | St Michael's Hotel |
| Grantham | The Angel and Royal |
| Great Dunmow | The Saracen's Head* |
| Harrogate | The Crown |
| Hove | The Dudley |
| Huddersfield | Old Golf House Hotel* |
| Huntingdon | The George |
| King's Lynn | The Duke's Head |
| Kinross | Windlestrae* |
| Leamington Spa | Manor House Hotel |
| Leicester | Time Out Hotel |
| Llangollen | The Royal |
| Ludlow | The Feathers Hotel |
| Luton | The Chiltern Hotel |
| Maidstone | Larkfield Priory Hotel |
| Maldon | The Blue Boar |
| Newbury | The Chequers |
| Northallerton | The Golden Lion |
| Old Harlow | The Green Man Hotel |
| Oxford | Hawkwell House |
| Paignton | The Palace |
| Perth | The Royal George |
| Pitlochry | Atholl Palace |

| | |
|---|---|
| Pontefract | The Parkside Hotel* |
| Portsmouth | Keppel's Head Hotel |
| Presteigne | Radnorshire Arms |
| Queensferry/Edinburgh | Queensferry Lodge |
| Romsey (nr.Winchester) | Potters Heron |
| Rugby | Brownsover Hall |
| Scarborough | The Crown Hotel |
| Sheffield | Beauchief Hotel |
| Sheffield | Grosvenor House Hotel |
| Sherwood Forest | Clumber Park |
| Shrewsbury | The Lion Hotel |
| Shropshire Borders | Hinnley Country Hotel |
| Southampton | The Dolphin |
| Stafford | The Garth Hotel |
| Stone | Stone House Hotel |
| Stratford-Upon-Avon | The White Swan |
| Tewkesbury | Tewkesbury Park Hotel |
| Tewkesbury | The Royal Hop Pole |
| Tonbridge | The Rose and Crown |
| Tring | The Rose and Crown |
| Warwick | Honiley Court Hotel |
| Welwyn Garden City | Homestead Court Hotel |
| Weston-super-Mare | The Grand Atlantic |
| Widnes | Hillcrest Hotel* |
| Wimborne Minster | The King's Head |
| Wirral | The Bowler Hat Hotel |
| Woodbridge | The Crown |
| Worcester | The Star Hotel |

£49.00 per person per night

| | |
|---|---|
| Bassenthwaite/Keswick | The Castle Inn |
| Bristol | Redwood Lodge Hotel |
| Darlington | Hall Garth Golf & Country Club Hotel |
| Exeter | Buckerell Lodge |
| London | Plaza on Hyde Park† |
| Manchester Airport | Etrop Grange |
| Sandbach | Chimney House Hotel |
| Windermere | The Belsfield |

REGAL

*A collection of individual hotels*

*Call now on* Quoting ref: TAB/TIM **0345 33 44 00** *or book at your local travel agent through Highlife Breaks*

•Prices per person per night for bed & breakfast. All other prices are per person per night including dinner, bed, breakfast & VAT at 17.5%. Prices are based on 2 adults sharing a twin/double room for a minimum of 2 nights. Those hotels marked with * are valid for weekend only (Fri/ Sat/ Sun).Supplements may be charged for feature rooms or midweek single occupancy - prices on application. All breaks must be completed by 22/3/98, dates exclude 13th and 14th of February. All bookings are subject to availability with a limited number of rooms available at these promotional rates. This offer cannot be taken in conjunction with any other offer or promotion. Bookings must be made on the above number or via Highlife Breaks for the above rates to apply. See Regal Leisure Options brochure for full terms and conditions.

# End of the road for Highland haven

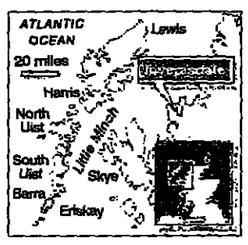
**Gillian Harris** on a remote village threatened by harsh economics





JOHN PAUL

Footing the bill: this is the one road that links Inverasdale to the outside world year-round, and Highland Council is considering charging tolls to pay for its upkeep




THE view from Donald MacIver's living-room window stretches out like a picture on a postcard. Snow-capped mountains rise from the still waters of Loch Ewe while a scattering of white-washed cottages and grazing sheep complete the Highland idyll.

But behind the tranquillity the tiny village of Inverasdale in Wester Ross is fighting for survival. On Monday, Highland Council will begin the consultation process to decide the future of the 16-pupil school which is threatened with closure. The bus service is also expected to be cut and the single-track lane leading to the village could become Scotland's first toll road.

On top of other hardships, including a water supply so foul-tasting that the 210 villagers prefer to trek two miles to collect supplies from a century-old spring by the roadside, the latest plans could destroy the small community.

Mr MacIver, whose family has lived in Inverasdale for generations, invokes the memory of the Highland Clearances in the 18th and 19th centuries, when crofters were cleared out to make way for sheep: "Inverasdale came through the Clearances but I'm not sure it can survive what's happening now," Mr MacIver said. "It is like a conspiracy to clear the Highlands all over again. People seem to want the area for the tourists."

Eighty miles from the nearest large town and ten miles from a sizeable village, Inverasdale has always been remote. The hard slog of urban life seems unreal in a place that has remained almost the same for more than one hundred years. For incomers, such as Derek and Nicola Taylor, who moved to Wester Ross from Lancashire three years ago, that was part of the attraction. The move north offered their two children a safe, spectacular place in which to grow up.

But increasingly the very aspects of rural life that make it such an beguiling alternative to city dwelling are killing small communities. "In the past five years I have noticed a change," Mr MacIver said. "There are fewer jobs around. I used to work in a quarry at Gairloch, then it closed. I had a job on the fish farm but they made men redundant. Gradually things seem to have been shutting down. The nearest petrol station, a few miles away, shut last month. But if the school closes we would have to think about moving."





Donald MacIver at the village spring; Karen, 11, and John MacKay, 7, outside their school, which faces closure

Mr MacIver and his wife Rosemary have two sons, Steven and Martin, at the primary school, which was established in 1877. "It would be a wrench for me and it would be a worry for the children. We would have to move to a city where there is work for me."

For tourists who pass through Inverasdale on a fortnight's holiday during the summer, it is the village that time forgot. They find it quaint that villagers draw water from a spring, but the charm of having to travel two miles to fill a plastic container for a cup of coffee soon wears thin.

Although the mains water is safe to drink, it is the colour of tea and tastes of chlorine. "I wouldn't drink it," said Hannah MacLeod, who works in Inverasdale's one shop, a general store. "I prefer to go to the spring."

The suggestion, put forward at a meeting of Highland Council, that the cost of upgrading the only road to Inverasdale which is open all year round be met by the introduction of tolls, infuriates the villagers.

"We are mindful of what happened on Skye with the bridge tolls. They needn't think they can try that sort of trick on us," Mr MacIver said.

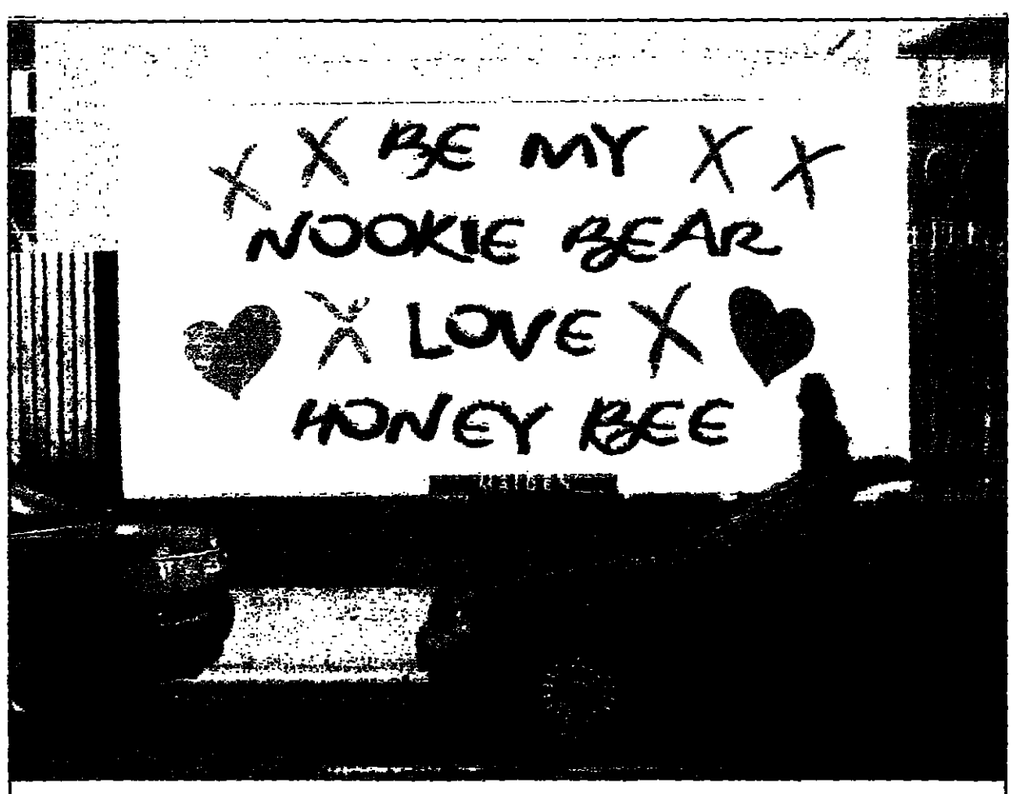
As well as the shop, Inverasdale has a post office, housed in a corrugated-iron hut. There are two churches but the nearest pub is five miles away, the nearest policeman ten and the nearest hospital 80. It came as no surprise to the residents that the 1991 Census identified their village as socially and economically deprived. But they are used to the long drive on the single-track road that threads its way along the shores of Loch Maree to the outside world. It is the threat to their school, and the consequent loss of new blood, that causes real concern.

It has happened in other communities in the Highlands, including Melvaig on the other side of the peninsula, where the deserted cottages have been turned into holiday homes.

"Obviously tourism is something we have to look at in Inverasdale," said Nicola Taylor, secretary of the Loch Ewe Action Forum, which is planning to regenerate the area. "We have set up a community Website letting people know what is available and where they can stay."

She admits, however, that tourism with its seasonal employment is no substitute for a viable, year-round community. "Again, the school is crucial in determining our fate," she said. "If it stays open the village can retain its unique character."

A spokesman for Highland Council said that a decision about the school would be reached in due course. The population of Inverasdale know that they have to fight any closure. The survival of their community is at stake.




THE MORE SUBTLE WAY TO SEND OR RECEIVE

YOUR MESSAGE PHILIPS D'AMOUR BT EasyReach THIS VALENTINE'S DAY

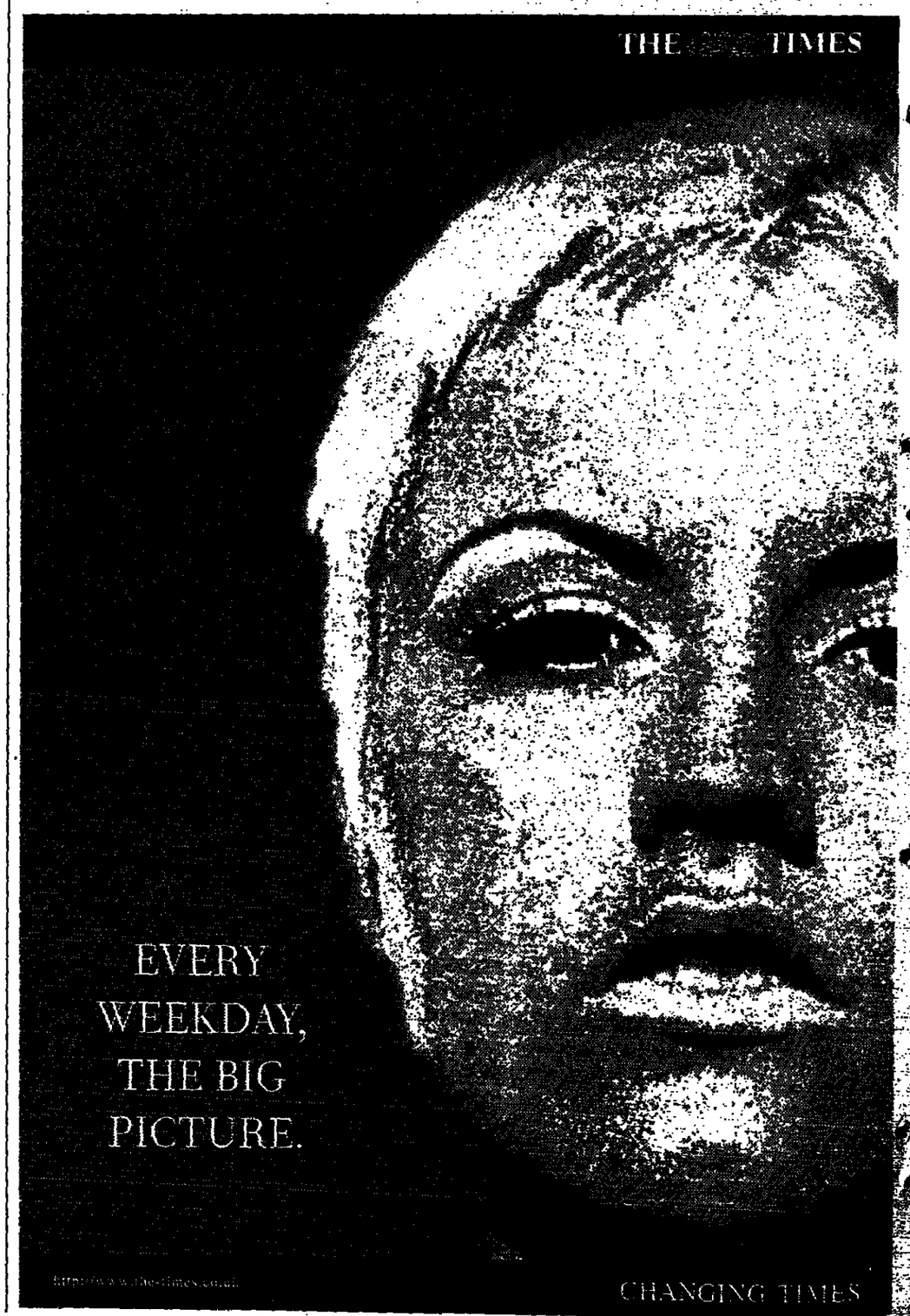
Buy a BT EasyReach Alpha pager and enjoy the benefits of free News, Premier League Football and Lottery information services. And with £10 off the EasyReach Alpha, now only £59.99, you can receive sweet nothings any day of the year. Buy one now from the shops listed below, or by calling our Free*fone* number.

Free*fone* 0800 66 77 67 BT EasyReach

ref: 300

BT COMMUNICATION CENTRES, BT SHOPS, COMET, CURRYS, DIXONS, DX COMMUNICATIONS, PHONES 4U, STAPLES, THE CARPHONE WAREHOUSE, THE LINK AND SELECTED POST OFFICE COUNTERS.

Sale offer ends 28th February 1998. Calls cost 55p per message peak time (8am-6pm Monday-Friday), 35p at peak. Calls from BT public payphones, mobiles, non-BT networks and those made using BT Chargecards are charged at different rates.



مكبر من الاصل



# Gambler tells how to win £100,000 a year

## A libel court is given an insight into a world of horses, high stakes and big rewards. **Lin Jenkins** reports

A PROFESSIONAL gambler appeared before the High Court yesterday and outlined a horse race betting system that he said could earn him up to £100,000 a year.

Jack Ramsden, the husband of the leading Flat race trainer Lynda Ramsden, is party to a libel action that his wife is bringing against a newspaper that called her a cheat.

*The Sporting Life* accused the Ramsdens and Keiron Fallon, a jockey, of conspiring to deceive punters by running a horse in a race without trying to win. Weeks after coming fifth in that race the horse, Top Cees, won the £40,000 Chester Cup.

Mirror Group Newspapers, publisher of *The Sporting Life*, deny libel. It says that the article is true in substance and fact or fair comment on a matter of public interest.

Yesterday Mr Ramsden, 56, agreed that he had been an "astute and successful gambler" on flat racing over the past 25 years and that he could make £100,000 a year. All three major bookmakers, Ladbrokes, William Hill and Coral, had long ago closed his accounts claiming that it was not economic for them to keep them. "They have shareholders to look after, so have no interest in anybody making a profit," he said.

His bets were placed with an on-course bookmaker, Colin Webster, with Leslie Steel and occasionally through his son, friends, or owners including Robert Sangster. Last year he had 65 "good days" or winning bets of which ten were on horses trained by his wife. Once he had staked £5,000 on a single bet but the horse had lost. "I did not enjoy it and I don't think I have done it since. It is not my usual stake. My betting philosophy is for smaller stakes and combinations. I might bet £2,000 but there would be no more than four or five of those a year."

He said that a single bet on one of his wife's runners had more than paid for an equine swimming pool at their training yard in Sandhutton, North Yorkshire. He had staked £1,500 to win and £500 for a place at odds of 14-1.

Under cross-examination by Richard Hartley, QC, for the Mirror Group, he said he would rather back horses at odds of 14-1 than at short prices. "If you are right, two in 14, you are doing very well." He studied form daily, took the speed of individual horses from *Time Form* and devised his own rating system which he logged on computer. He told the court that one bookmaker, Mr Webster, was also an owner, having a third stake in one horse trained by his wife. Mr Webster also paid Mr Ramsden a retainer of £5,000 a year for information on horses.



Ramsden: shunned by big bookmakers

Mr Hartley said that the combination of punter, wife as trainer and bookmaker as owner, was a "pretty lethal combination" and "ingredients for a coup". Mr Ramsden said that Mr Hartley was assuming that Mr Webster wanted to place a bet.

Mr Hartley said that a husband-wife, punter-trainer combination "must be lethal from the point of view of the bookmaker". Mr Ramsden replied: "If you get it right and you have a bet then I suppose yes."

Mr Ramsden said that *The Sporting Life*'s allegation that the three had cheated when Top Cees came fifth in the Swaffam Handicap at Newmarket just weeks before landing the £40,000 first prize in the Chester Cup had provoked "a sense of outrage".

He added: "I have been appalled that someone as honest as my wife could be called a cheat. Obviously I did not like it either. One expects protests, but when breeders and better owners read that you are a cheat and that their horses may not get a fair run for their money, obviously it is bad news. There are people around today who probably still think that is the truth."

When Top Cees won the Chester Cup, Mr Ramsden said he had not wagered any money on it. He had backed the second horse home, Harlestone Brook, £250 to win and £100 place and had another £70 at 14-1 on an outsider which finished about seventh. "Harlestone Brook was a proven stayer. I had seen him race. As a man who makes calculations on the evidence of the form book I thought he represented better value," he said.

The hearing continues.



Lieutenants Melanie Rees and Sue Moore, below, will take command of their ships in a matter of weeks



# Women to command warships

THE Royal Navy has ended centuries of tradition by appointing two women to command warships, it emerged yesterday. Susan Moore and Melanie Rees, both 26-year-old lieutenants, are embarking on a special course next week and should take up their posts within weeks.

The appointment of the two women — who will begin by commanding Archer class coastal patrol boats with a crew of five — follows a series of scandals on board warships which have put the navy's policy of mixed-sex crews in the spotlight.

The latest move, however, has been welcomed by MPs and the Equal Opportunities Commission. Karmlesh Bahl, the commission's chairwoman, said: "These appointments send a great message to all young people with aspirations to join the Armed Forces." Dr John Reid, the Armed Forces Minister, said: "Appointments such as these clearly demonstrate the Royal Navy's commitment to full integration of women."

Lt Moore will take command of *HMS Dasher* at Portsmouth and Lt Rees will command *HMS Express*, based at Cardiff.

# Churches told to focus on retaining members

BY RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

FOR every adult in church on Sunday there are four who used to be regular attenders but have given up, according to research to be published next month.

A report suggests that rather than concentrating solely on recruiting new members, churches should focus on how to stop people leaving. Only one in ten adults attends church on Sundays.

The research, by the Rev Philip Richter, a Methodist minister and sociologist, and Dr Leslie Francis, professor of pastoral theology at the University of Wales, examines why attendances are falling across every Christian denomination in Britain. About 400 people filled out questionnaires, and a further 27 were interviewed in depth. All had once been churchgoers but had stopped going at some stage.

For most of those aged under 20 it was a sudden decision, while for older people it was a gradual process. Reasons for leaving included a belief that it was not necessary to go to church to be a Christian; loss of faith; and a growing awareness of alternative ways of thinking or living.

Many were disillusioned by the number of people who fought each other in the name of religion. Others felt that their way of life was incompatible with the Church and that they wanted to follow a spiritual quest without institutions. Many said churches were not necessary because "people have God within them".

Some had felt stifled by the churches. A large proportion left because, they said, they grew up and started making decisions on their own. Moving, leaving home and working on Sundays were all cited as reasons for leaving church, while many people had simply lost the habit of going.

Respondents said that the Church failed to connect with their life, that sermons and teachings were irrelevant, and that they were bored.

Those who did leave were often angry that their departure was not followed up. A man who left a charismatic Anglican church was upset that only one man had contacted him; "he wanted to sell me life insurance."

A computer executive in his forties felt that people he had looked up to in the Church turned out to be hypocritical. Another man, once heavily involved in his parish and deanery, realised he did not believe in what the church was saying.

The Church Leaving Applied Research Project was commissioned by the Methodist Church after a minister wondered why so many people were leaving the Church. Based at Southlands and Whitelands colleges within the Roehampton Institute, London, it was broadened to cover all Christian denominations.

Faith, Weekend, page 22


B&Q SALE

HURRY! OFFERS MUST END 8pm MONDAY 9th FEBRUARY†



"These kitchen and appliance offers are only available for a few more days."

MARIA DONALD
Kitchen Sales Advisor
B&Q STEVENSTON

SAVE £70



Homark Fan Pack
Includes fan oven, standard hood and hob. Available in brown or white. With electric hob (as shown).
Was £319 £249 each

SPECIAL ORDER

SAVE £50

Also available Homark Fan Pack with gas hob. Was £299 £249 each

FREE OFFER



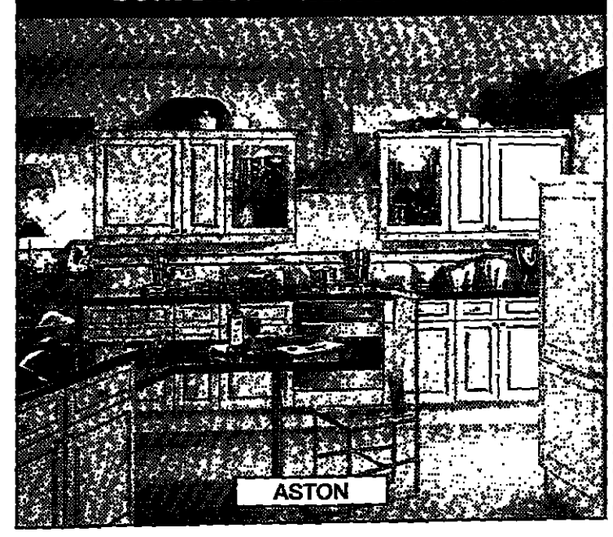
UKM 110 Microwave (B&Q PRICE £99) when you buy a BDO 810 Double Oven Pack.



Whirlpool Double Oven Pack BDO 810 With gas or electric hob and standard hood. Includes lower oven four-flow cooking system, upper oven conventional cooking & variable grill.

ONLY £599

33% OFF SELECTED KITCHEN UNITS
• GRASMERE • EDMONTON
• BORDEAUX • WESTON • ASTON




25% OFF SELECTED KITCHEN UNITS
• RIALTO • CHERITON • BROOKLAND
• CONISTON • TURNBERRY




EARN TESCO CLUBCARD POINTS AT B&Q
Ask in store for details.
Does not apply in B&Q Warehouses or B&Q Depots.

OPENING HOURS
Monday-Saturday: Most stores 8am-8pm.
Sunday: Most stores England & Wales 10am-4pm (where permitted). Scotland 9am-6pm & Northern Ireland 1pm-6pm. Certain store hours may vary, please 'phone your nearest store to confirm.

BRITAIN'S BIGGEST D.I.Y CHAIN – FOR YOUR NEAREST STORE PHONE 0181 466 4166
Internet - http://www.diy.co.uk

B&Q
YOU CAN DO IT WHEN YOU B&Q IT!

Offers may vary at B&Q Warehouses and B&Q Depots. Please ask in store for details of our Price Promise. Ask in store for details of all offers. Discounts are on kitchen units only. All kitchens and appliances on offer may not be displayed or stocked in all stores, but can be ordered. The free microwave will be delivered with the double oven following the order being placed; check with store on delivery details. All offers subject to availability, please check before travelling. Kitchen units are self-assembly. †Most sale offers ended 26th January, but some other offers will continue until 16th February 1998.



Going Places

THE HOLIDAY MATCHMAKER

up to 33% off

1998/99 CARIBBEAN CRUISES WITH PRINCESS CRUISES



IT'S SO EASY TO BOOK!
VISIT YOUR LOCAL SHOP
TELEPHONE 08701 616161
SEE US ON Teletext ITV PAGE 263

33% discount applies per person to the Tropical Calypso cruise on board the Dawn Princess, cabin grade EC on selected departures and booked from the Princess Caribbean 1998/9 brochure. Discount subject to availability at price and not for sales. Discount excludes Going Places and Princess Cruises discount. Offer subject to the purchase of Going Places cruising at the time of booking. Typical cost £598.95 for up to 17 nights European and £649.95 for up to 17 nights Worldwide cover. Offer available for a limited period only. Brochure and terms and conditions apply. Princess Cruises are operated by P&O Cruises. ATOL 2412. ABTA A80276


GILL ALLEN

Leee John recording at his home and, inset, as he was: "Everyone has been phoning to say, We need you"

# Bright new day for the boogie knights

**Kathryn Knight** on Seventies stars whose music has spun round again

TWENTY years after they first slipped on their tanktops, the disco bands of the Seventies are back playing to packed houses.

Riding on a revival in all things Seventies, groups such as Odyssey, Heatwave, Light of the World and Hot Chocolate are performing sell-out gigs across the country. Even Fidel Castro, the Cuban President, has embraced the revival and asked Boney M to perform at his next presidential party.

"Sometimes I have to pinch myself," said Gee Bellow, the original percussionist from Light of the World. "Some of the people who come to see us now weren't even born when we first had hits."

The eight-piece group first released an album in 1978, but spent the Eighties and Nineties experimenting with other groups and doing backing for bands such as Wham! Now they are back in the spotlight. Mr Bellow said: "We started as teens, but 20 years on we're still able to reproduce the same pieces and they're still relevant. It feels like we're living legends. For a laugh, I come on for the encore in my Afro wig."



Gee Bellow today, and with Light of the World in their younger days

For Al Jackson and Lillian Lopez from Odyssey, whose big hit *Native New Yorker* went gold in 1977, the clamour for authentic Seventies sounds has led to them just releasing their *Very Best Of* CD. Mr Jackson said the reason there had been such an explosion of interest is because the music stood the test of time: "Everyone tended to think of the Seventies as the lost decade, but it was an era when there was very good music."

Heatwave, who sang *Boogie Nights* which gives its name to the new film, had nine hits in the mid-Seventies. Their greatest were released in time for the Christmas market this year and are selling out. The singer Keith Wilder, 46, said that the group had never stopped touring, but were now playing to people who had never previously thought to buy an album: "We have seven dates in Britain this month, and then a full month's tour with Odyssey in April."

Singer-songwriter Errol Brown, 46, is another who has been thrust back into the limelight after his 1975 hit with Hot Chocolate, *You Sexy Thing*, was used in the cult film *The Full Monty* last year. Brown spent much of the Eighties and Nineties pursuing other interests, including horseracing. Now Hot Chocolate's *Greatest Hits* album has gone double platinum, the second single *It Started With A Kiss* is expected to hit the top 10 again, and his diary includes tours of Britain, Australia and New Zealand.

"In March I'm starting a 15-date tour, which is the biggest tour I've ever done," he said. "It feels great the second time round. It's a real compliment to know my songs are so durable. When I get letters asking for autographs they say, "Can I have one for me and one for my mum?' I think the music keeps me young."

This year also looks set to mark a comeback for Gwen Dickie, former lead singer of Rose Royce, who topped the charts in the Seventies with *Car Wash*. After leaving the band in the Eighties, she spent a few years "doing absolutely nothing" before a couple of unsuccessful record deals. She is to feature on *Top of The Pops* this week with a remix of her 1977 hit *Wishing on a Star*. She said: "I have had calls in the past asking me to rerelease some of the hits and I always didn't want to do it. Then I was asked a lot towards the end of last year and I thought, why not?"

Leee John, from Imagination, spent much of his time out the British limelight abroad, acting as producer for other bands and learning the latest dance technology. "Everyone's been phoning and saying we need you to play," he said. "It's great to be back in the limelight."


DES JENSON

Errol Brown: fans want autographs for themselves and their mothers

## Punk wins acceptance with art you can swear by

By Caitlin Moran

**IT SEEMS unlikely but the Royal Festival Hall — home of the London Philharmonic Orchestra — is the perfect and logical site for *Destroy*, the first exhibition of punk graphic design.**

**Obviously, not *inside*, where a cosy crowd of Friday lunchers are so cultured they know when to clap during the jazz ensemble's endless jams. No, the exhibition is *outside*, part of the half-mile of damp, dead concrete on the South Bank, rich in muggers' stairwells, and overlooking the Thames' filthy beaches, which makes this a fitting place to ponder the ugly towns that spawned punk and punk art.**

**At the time of Punk's inception, the Sixties love thing was over, glam and disco were for indulging, not participating: the only logical rebellion for a new movement was to hate and create. Humour, determination and energy were the new faith, hope and charity.**

**Which is why, wandering around this small, sparse collection, everything seems so familiar and contemporary. Punk's desire to subvert soppy hippies and their offspring has been fulfilled; pretty much everyone under 50 will walk around going: "Yep, that's how things are."**

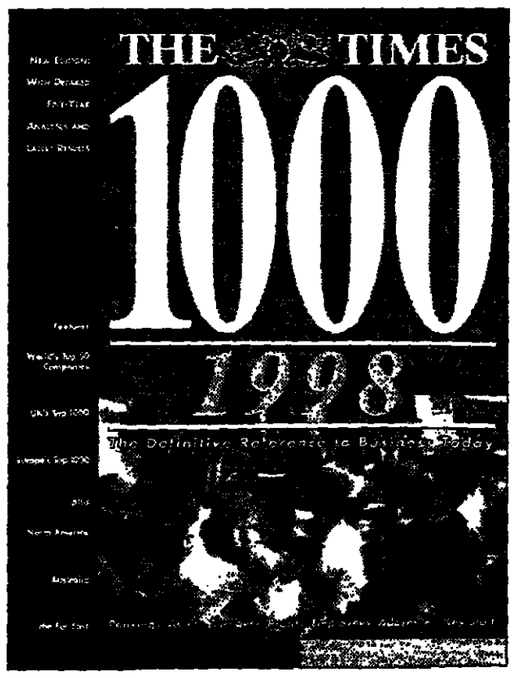
**Jamie Reid's *Never Mind the Bollocks* sleeve is as familiar an icon as the Penguin Books logo. The early copies of *The Face* and *iD* look, if anything, slightly better than *The Face* and *iD* look now, and the messages daubed everywhere are just, well, normal. No, I tell a lie: large sections of the Punk Wars were fought using the peashooter-strength swear-vocabulary of "bollocks" and "sex". We tote Uzi-swear-words these days. This is the only real difference between 1976 and 1998.**

***Destroy*'s main point, made crisply and precisely, is that we are still living in an age of punk and punk design. Which is why *Destroy* isn't really that interesting.**


# GET THE FACTS *and* THE FIGURES

## The Times 1000 1998

Published every year since 1967




**The definitive business reference**
With full listings of the UK's and Europe's top 1000 companies
**£40**

**NEW for 1998**
**The Times 1000 Index on CD-Rom**
The ready-made mailing list to 2000 of the world's largest businesses
**£150** (inc. VAT)

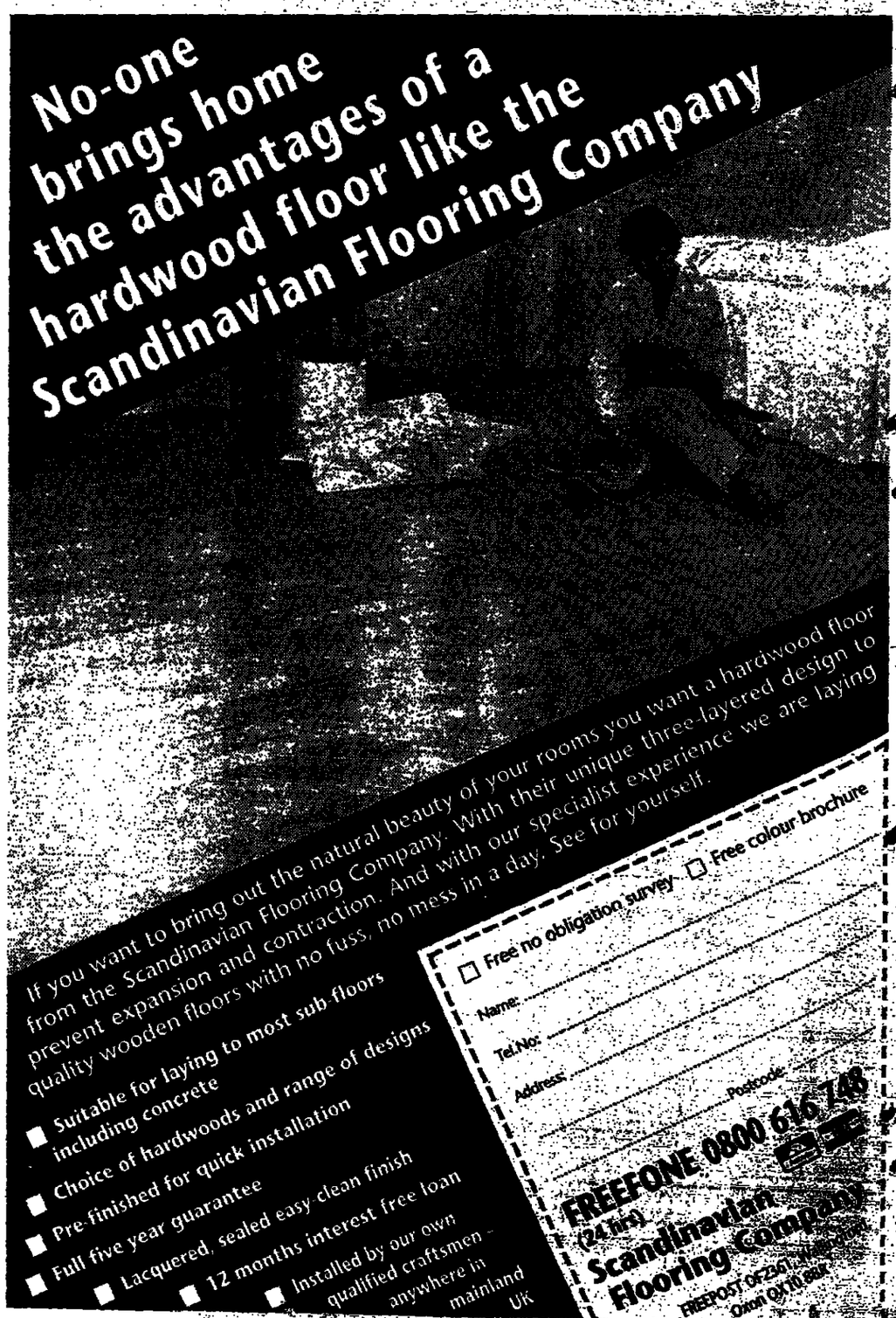



SPECIAL OFFER
Buy the book *and* the CD for just £170 (inc. VAT)

TO ORDER
our 24-hour telephone ordering service on 0181 307 4052
or send this coupon to Dept. 941X, HarperCollins*Publishers*, Westerhill Road, Bishopbriggs, Glasgow, G64 2QT.

Please send me ____ copy/ies of The Times 1000 1998 @ £40
Please send me ____ copy/ies of The Times 1000 1998 Index on CD-Rom @ £150 (inc. VAT)
Please send me ____ copy/ies of The Times 1000 1998 book and CD pack @ £170 (inc. VAT)

I enclose a cheque for £ ____ made payable to HarperCollins*Publishers* or please debit my MasterCard/Visa (delete where necessary)
Card No. ____
Expiry date: ____/____ Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms/Other title ____
Surname ____ Initials ____
Address ____
Postcode ____
Signature ____ Please allow 21 days delivery



# Roses are red but shopping lists are blue

## Supermarkets spare no blushes with saucy Valentine offerings. **Robin Young** checks out the food of love

SUDDENLY supermarkets are selling sex toys. In preparation for February 14 the shops have loaded their shelves not only with tried and tested aphrodisiacs such as chocolate but also love sausages, lickable cherry-flavoured massage cream and sizzling-hot chilli sauces.

In further homage to St Valentine, almost everything is available heart-shaped, including croissants at Marks & Spencer, baguettes at Asda, pork loin steaks at Sainsbury's, chocolate-dipped biscuits and chocolate cake at Waitrose and smoked salmon at Selfridges, Harvey Nichols and Harrods.

The prize for the most priapic seasonal invention must go to Tesco for its Superior Selection Love Sausage. A quartet of the sausages, a lusty eight inches in length, come in a container resembling a video cassette case printed with slogans such as "Guaranteed to make your evening sizzle!" Inside there is a Valentine verse:

*Roses are red,*
*Violets are blue,*
*I want to share,*
*My Sausage with you.*

The 100g sausages, with moist, shiny skin and fleshy, dark pink contents, look like something from an Ann Summers sex shop. But they are wholly edible and their recipe is enriched with ginseng, ginger and oyster sauce.

At a tasting trial they proved spicily flavoursome, though rather too substantial for most feminine appetites.

Offerings from the Asda chain include Cupid's Ale, a pink-tinged beer brewed with ginseng, and heart-shaped "his and hers tarts" — his filled with chocolate mousse and chocolate flakes, hers with strawberry.

Asda has also devised a True Love ice cream, a recipe incorporating strawberry and passion fruit, with pink chocolate hearts in the mix.

Safeway is the source for lickable cherry massage oil, chocolate hot lips and chocolate body paint, and also for red-hot chilli-flavoured sauce in a heart-shaped bottle. Perhaps more winningly seductive than these suggestive novelties is the company's bottled fruit and berries in champagne.

Sainsbury's amorously inclined hopes are pinned on a Country Companions Valentine's Cake, which features hedgehogs canoodling over a heart, and heart-shaped Valentine pork loin steaks, which, the company suggests, "will make a delectable main course that will really say 'I love you' when served with a creamy pepper sauce, wild rice and asparagus tips drizzled with truffle oil".

The four basic rules for aphrodisiac meals, Sainsbury's says, are that final preparation should take only a few minutes; the food should be satisfying without being heavy; the ingredients should include at least one reputed aphrodisiac (the approved list includes oysters, lobster, asparagus, truffles, grapes, fennel, pine nuts and celery seeds); and the menu should be very different from everyday food.

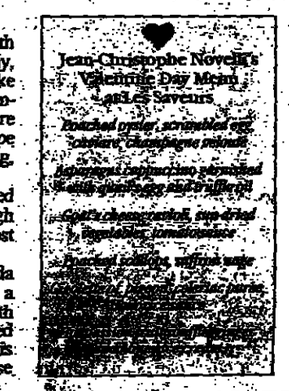
Waitrose, Somerfield and the Co-op, though, take a dim view of such incitements to lechery. Waitrose's spokeswoman admitted that the company's stores sold Valentine's Day sausages last year but apparently they upset some of the strait-laced managers of the John Lewis Partnership, to which Waitrose belongs.

"The sausages went well," the spokeswoman said, "but we looked at the product and thought, 'Never again.'" She said none of this year's Waitrose products contained any known aphrodisiac. "Even our heart-shaped fondant fancies are perfectly innocent," she claimed.

The spokeswomen for the Co-op and Somerfield were even more brisk. "We do not sell silly things," they said. "We sell bouquets of flowers."

Jean-Christophe Novelli, of Les Saveurs in Marylebone and Maison Novelli, Clerkenwell, and columnist in *The Times Magazine*, is providing a special Valentine's Day menu, which we reproduce here. The six-course menu will cost £79.50 per person and includes a glass of champagne and a rose for women diners.

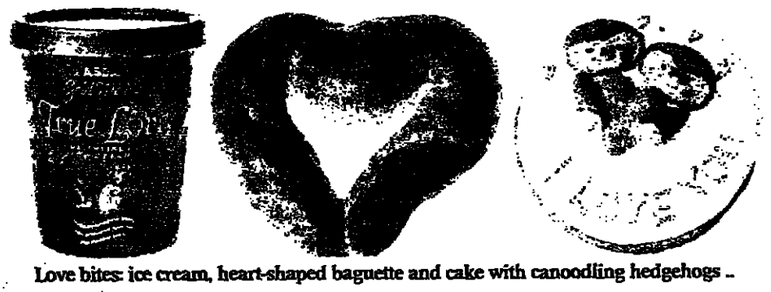
He is French, of course, and confided yesterday: "Myself, I do not rely on oysters, aparagus or any of that stuff. You know, it is all psychological really. I get by on charm."




DES JENSON



The Love Sausage, "guaranteed to make your evening sizzle", is spicily flavoursome but a little too substantial for most women diners



Love bites: ice cream, heart-shaped baguette and cake with canoodling hedgehogs



...Or Babe and Hunk cakes, ale flavoured with ginseng, and his and hers tarts

# Tempting the tastebuds with the food of love

MOST alleged aphrodisiacs derive their reputation from supposed resemblances to the genitalia or erogenous zones, either female (oysters, figs, eggs, cherries, strawberries, raspberries, grapes) or male (asparagus spears, celery sticks, salsify, pine nuts, walnuts, or virtually any nuts really, and even cucumbers and tomatoes).

Foreigners sometimes take this to the logical extreme, by consuming the sexual parts of animals (cockerels' combs and bulls' testicles in France and Spain, deer, bear or tiger penises in the Far East) but such products are not — yet — to be found in British supermarkets. Ginseng and ginger roots frequently resemble the whole or parts of the human body, but then so do parsnips, carrots and potatoes, which have less well-established reputations for aphrodisiacal effect.

Truffles exude pheromones similar to those of the wild boar, which is what excites truffle-hunting pigs. Why it should excite a human being is less obvious.

The most thorough scientific case for any aphrodisiac supports the claims of chocolate as a soothing and unctuous incitement to amorous pursuits.

It is also certain that alcohol in any form relaxes inhibitions considerably, often making seduction something of a pushover, though it may not make seduction quite as simple as falling down.




# Private firm to run schools in Lambeth

**John O'Leary** reports on a controversial education partnership

A BOROUGH once known as the most extreme bastion of municipal socialism has hired a private company to help to run its schools in a bid for one of the Government's controversial education action zones.

Lambeth, in South London, has formed a partnership with the Centre for British Teachers, a firm more used to employing classroom staff in countries such as Brunei, Cambodia and Namibia. The company already runs seven local careers services and is one of the largest providers of Ofsted inspection teams. As many as three secondary schools and about 15 primaries would be involved in the action zone, which Lambeth hopes will be among the first five to be approved by ministers. The new organisation, which would be free to opt out of parts of the national curriculum and to vary teachers' pay and conditions, would assume responsibility for the schools in September.

Heather Du Quesnay, Lambeth's director of education, said several private companies had expressed interest in joining the scheme but that the Centre for British Teachers was the natural choice because it was already working with the borough on school budgets. "They will look at our operation with a fresh pair of eyes and give us access to a range of different skills."

Neil McIntosh, the company's chief executive, said that the Lambeth bid might be the first of several action zone projects involving the company. "We have no desire to lead an action zone, but providing services for schools is our business. We would hope to bring a new approach to the way services are deployed and organised."

The company, a registered charity based in Reading, was founded 30 years ago to provide English language teachers abroad. It has a turnover of £38 million and employs 800 people, running teacher training schemes and management services, as well as inspection teams and careers services. A report it published last week was highly critical of local education authorities' funding practices.

Ms Du Quesnay said the company might be able to help recruit "advanced skills teachers", who could serve a number of schools inside and outside the zone. Small authorities such as Lambeth might be too small to employ the so-called superteachers in every subject.

Lambeth's zone would take full advantage of the promised flexibility over pay and the curriculum, Ms Du Quesnay said, but would not wish to dilute the powers of school governors: "I would hope that by finding more varied ways of employing teachers, we would be able to pay them better and enhance their professionalism."

She said that some of the schools likely to be covered by the action zone were enthusiastic about the project, which would be backed by £500,000 of government money. Others were more wary. "We hope to have a range of schools because I am anxious that this should be seen as about innovation, not compensating for failure," she said.

Bids for the first action zones have to be lodged before the end of next month. The Government is hoping to approve 25 zones by next year, involving local education authorities, parents' groups and private companies in areas of social disadvantage and poor educational performance.

The involvement of the private sector has alarmed teaching unions and some local authorities. Mr McIntosh said that his company was used to working with both groups. "Anything that fails to deliver a more satisfied teaching force with higher morale is doomed to fail." Lambeth has been trying to live down its former reputation for extreme left-wing politics.

In a separate initiative, the authority has commissioned a private inspection and advisory service. PKR Education Consultants, to advise five primary schools on raising standards. Two of the bottom ten primary schools in England in last month's league tables of 11-year-olds' test results were in Lambeth.

## BLUNKETT REBUKES SCHOOLS MINISTER

**David Blunkett, the Education and Employment Secretary, will today issue a veiled rebuke to Stephen Byers, his ambitious young Blairite deputy, when he insists that town halls have a big role to play in the Government's new education action zones for transforming bad schools.**

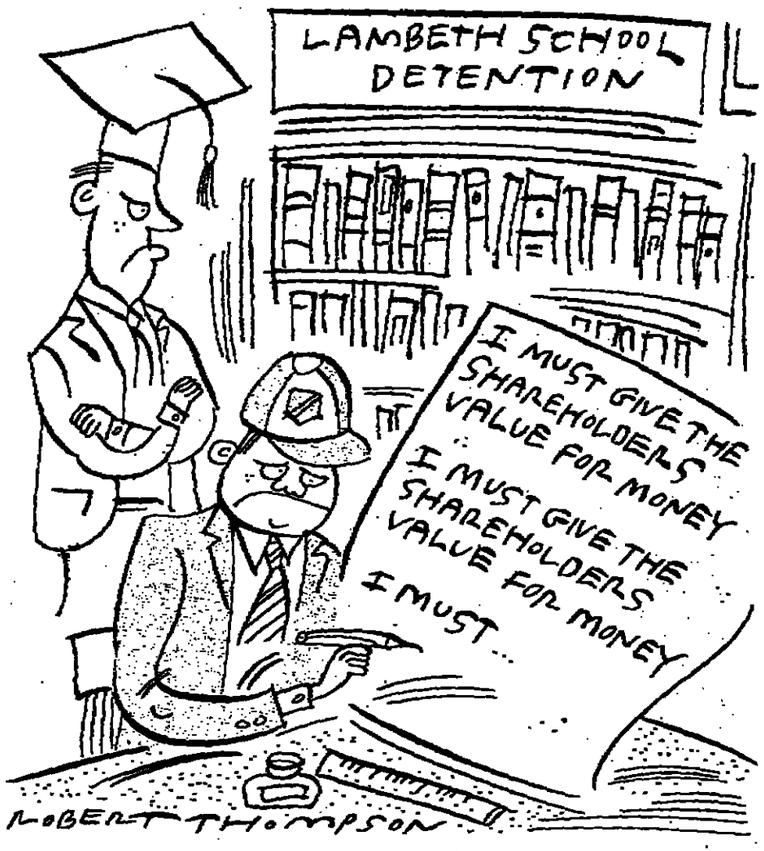
**Mr Byers, the Minister for School Standards, infuriated Labour councillors last month by warning them that local education authorities did not have "a God-given right to run and lead everything".**

**In a speech to Labour's local government conference in Scarborough, Mr Blunkett, right, will hold out an olive branch to council chiefs fearful of a private sector takeover of their educational empires.**



**He will urge LEAs to combine with private firms and community groups to raise classroom standards. Adopting far more conciliatory language than Mr Byers, Mr Blunkett will say the Government is keen to develop new partnerships between the public and the private sectors.**

**Firms would have three ways in which they could join forces with LEAs in tackling poor performance: cash assistance for an action zone; active collaboration with education bosses in the governing forum of the zone; and management of the implementation of a zone's plans.**




# Teachers to vote on red tape protest

BY DAVID CHARTER

A NEW wave of disruption in schools was threatened yesterday when the second largest teachers' union agreed to a ballot on industrial action over what it says is excessive bureaucracy.

The action, proposed by the National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers, could upset ministers' plans for all schools to set detailed targets for improvement. It could also mean teachers clashing with heads over the curriculum and boycotting "over-elaborate tests and assessments" and "unnecessary meetings".

Nigel de Gruchy, general secretary of the union, said that setting targets for every school would mean more frequent testing and assessment of pupils. He argued that the principle behind direct action — to "let teachers teach" — had the support of the Government, its advisers, school inspectors and employers. "I do not see how anyone can object to action designed to allow teachers to focus upon their most important task."

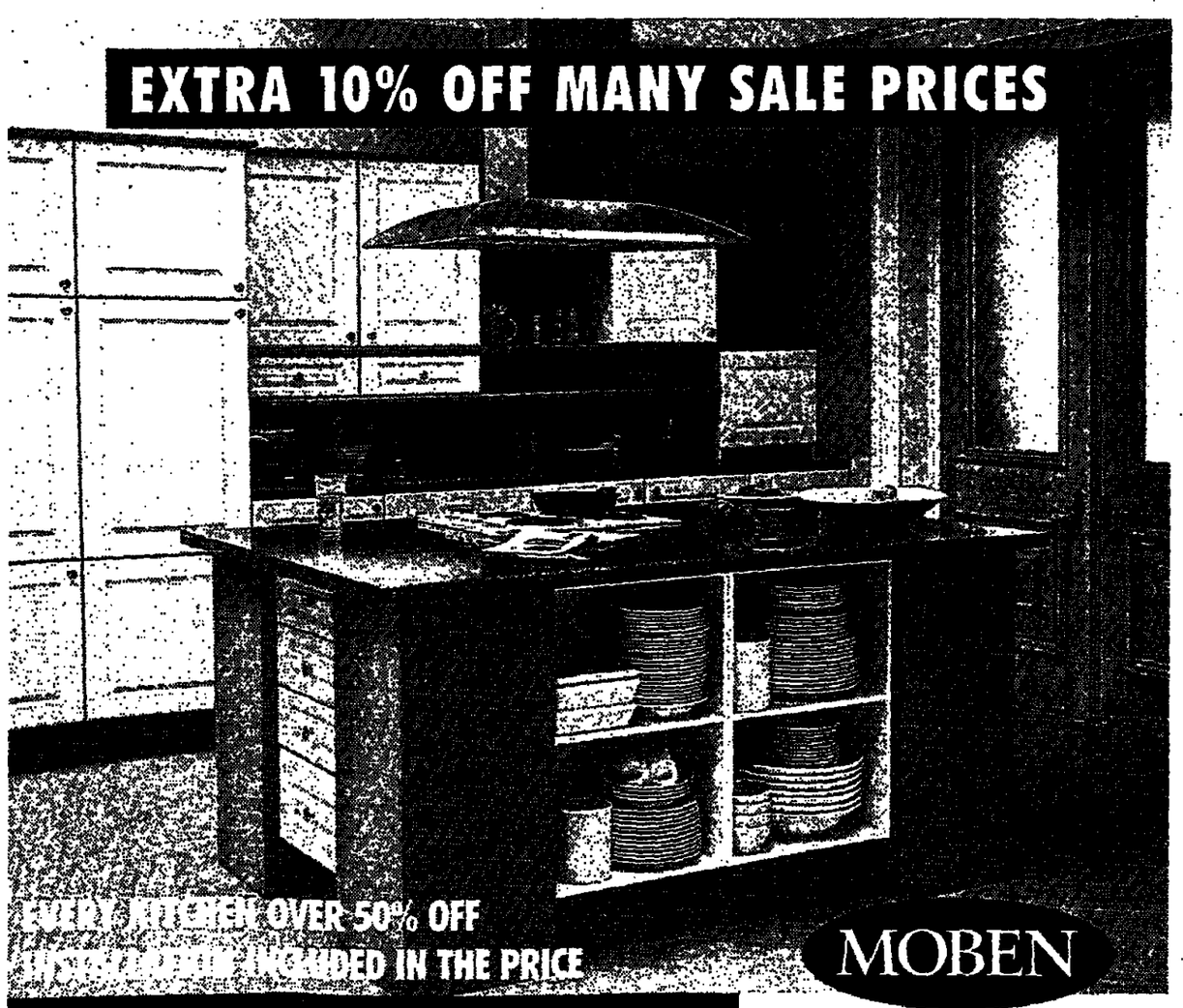
The National Union of Teachers, the biggest teachers' union, is asking its members what action they would support to free them from "unnecessary bureaucracy". At its annual conference at Easter the third union, the Association of Teachers and Lecturers, will debate a call for strike action to reduce stress on primary school teachers.

MOBEN
HALF PRICE
SALE

YOUR MOBEN KITCHEN CAN INCLUDE ALL THIS:
• INTEGRATED APPLIANCES
• RANGE OVEN • FEATURE EXTRACTOR CANOPY
• BUTLER SINK & LUXURY TAPS
• SOLID WOOD WORKTOPS
• FORMICA 40MM THICK WORKTOPS
• CORNICE MOULDINGS • LIGHT BAFFLES
• WINE & PLATE RACKS • APPLIANCE FACIA DOORS
• MATCHING ISLAND UNIT & WORKTOP
• MATCHING BREAKFAST BAR
• TONGUE & GROOVE PANELLING
ALL FULLY GUARANTEED AND INCLUSIVE OF VAT

MUST END WEDNESDAY 11TH FEB

EXTRA 10% OFF MANY SALE PRICES



EVERY KITCHEN OVER 50% OFF
FITTING INCLUDED IN THE PRICE

LAST ORDERS FOR THESE BUILT-IN APPLIANCES • BELOW ARE EXAMPLES OF OVER 50

EFFETECNIK
LESS THAN HALF PRICE AND INSTALLED FREE*

Neff T2113 Gas hob with push button control & pan supports. List price £175 NOW £85

Neff B1420 Circotherm oven & grill available in white or brown. List price £435 NOW £217

Tecnik TKD701 Integrated dishwasher 12 place settings† List price £539 NOW £99

VISIT MOBEN AT OVER 200 SHOWROOMS NATIONWIDE
For our new free 78 page colour brochure and to talk direct to your local showroom call this number now
0345 001122
SHOWROOMS OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK
MON–FRI 10.00AM–5.30PM SAT 9.00AM–5.30PM
SUN 10.00AM–4.00PM (Scotland Sunday 11.00 am–5.00 pm)

*Kitchen and appliance offers only available in kitchen purchases over £2500. Ref no. for dishwasher T1020701. Only one of each type of appliance per order. Half price refers to price list dated 26.11.97. Fitting excludes worktops, oven appliances. †To suitable on site supplies. ††Integrated doors available at extra cost. No other offers apply.

# Get tough to survive, cancer patients told

BY NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

BRITISH cancer patients are "dying of politeness" because they do not lobby hard enough for the best treatment, the chief executive of the Patients' Association said yesterday.

Cathy Gritzner told the International Congress on Anti-Cancer Treatment in Paris that British patients, especially women, had much to learn from the Americans. "People with cancer should take the lead in ensuring they have access to the very best care available by becoming more knowledgeable and demanding about their treatment decisions," she said. "We should be more assertive and saying to doctors, 'tell me what this treatment is and what are the alternatives'.

"Clearly it is a dilemma if some treatments are not funded but I think patients need to know that rather than being kept in ignorance."

Cancer survival in Britain was often worse than in other European countries and America. Ms Gritzner said the "yes doctor" syndrome was one reason for this. "It is because patients are not aware of what is available, what their choices are and where they can go for the best treatment."

Experience in America also indicated that better treatment results could be achieved by involving patients in important decisions about the funding and organisation of cancer care. The Patients' Association plans to work more closely with other medical charities and doctors to champion patients' rights. Ms Gritzner said: "The US has an established network of patients' organisations which have been effectively mobilised to play an important role in health care funding and research decisions on drugs for cancer and Aids. In Europe, and especially in the UK, such organisations are in their infancy and the patients' influence remains weak. We need to change all that."



Howells: received best treatment as part of trial

Debbie Howells, 29, the wife of the Tottenham Hotspur footballer David Howells, told the conference of her treatment for ovarian cancer. Mrs Howells, from Broxbourne, Hertfordshire, said: "I was lucky because I was asked to take part in a clinical trial and received the best treatment. A lot of people are quite happy to go to a doctor who tells them what he feels is their best line of treatment. Basically, they take that as gospel. They don't look anywhere else.

"I'm not like that at all and I really do feel that if patients were more aware of the treatment available it would save a lot of lives."

The Patients' Association is a patient advocacy group involved in patient education and lobbying and aims to improve care across a wide range of therapeutic areas. It works towards a consumer-led health system and advises and acts for the patient.

Ms Gritzner added: "In the UK we must move away from the current models that dominate our health care delivery systems. We want to see a strong partnership between patients and professionals, both working for the best treatments available. Our work will ensure that the patients' voice will increasingly be heard by government, health care providers and other patients."

THE SUNDAY TIMES

The boy who didn't want to grow old

When the actor Richard Todd found the body of his youngest son, Seumas, shortly before Christmas



he was too grief stricken to comprehend why the boy had shot himself. Then the suicide note was found . . .

THE SUNDAY TIMES TOMORROW

Private Medical Care

From £10 a month, isn't it worth taking care of the essentials?

Lifetime Essentials provides prompt access to private medical care from just £10 a month.

Why pay for more healthcare than you need? Our Lifetime Essentials plan gives you the reassurance of cover for in-patient treatment. That means high quality care when you need it. Monthly premiums start from just £10, so isn't it time you took care of the essentials?

For immediate medical cover, call now on 0500 66 99 66

FREEPOST with newly spruce. Please quote this reference when you call: Cbus/TIMES. Lines open 8am – 8pm weekdays, 9am – 5pm weekends. For your protection and to enable us to deal with any queries that may arise, calls will usually be recorded and randomly monitored.

Legal & General trust us to deliver

مكبر من الاصل



# Lesson of the Old Masters lost on the young

## Sir Anthony Caro says that new artists should seek inspiration from the past. **Dalya Alberge** reports

YOUNG painters and sculptors are passing up an invaluable chance to learn the language of art by choosing to ignore the Old Masters, Sir Anthony Caro said yesterday.

Caro, Britain's leading contemporary sculptor, recalled his dismay at one young artist's response to his appreciation of Matisse during a workshop. "Matisse?" she said. "Don't give me that. I don't want to hear about those old chaps. Don't give me history."

According to Caro, by not looking at the Masters "they lose out on the vocabulary — it's like a language". If today's generation took the trouble to look and learn, they would "find themselves being surprised that someone centuries ago was doing the same thing they are".

The sculptor spoke to *The Times* while putting the finishing touches to a series of new sculptures. All have been inspired by the Old Masters and will be shown this month at the National Gallery in what will be its first show of contemporary sculpture.

Van Gogh, Goya, Leonardo and Manet — each of whom studied the masters who had preceded them — prompted abstract ideas in bronze, steel and stoneware from one of the most prolific and inventive sculptors of his age.

Caro, who was born in 1924, worked as an assistant to Henry Moore from 1951 to 1953. For many, he has knocked Moore off his plinth as the greatest inspiration for sculptors. As the historian John Golding notes in the National Gallery catalogue, Mantegna learnt from Donatello, Moore learnt from Cézanne . . .



Van Gogh's *Chair*: old art feeding new art

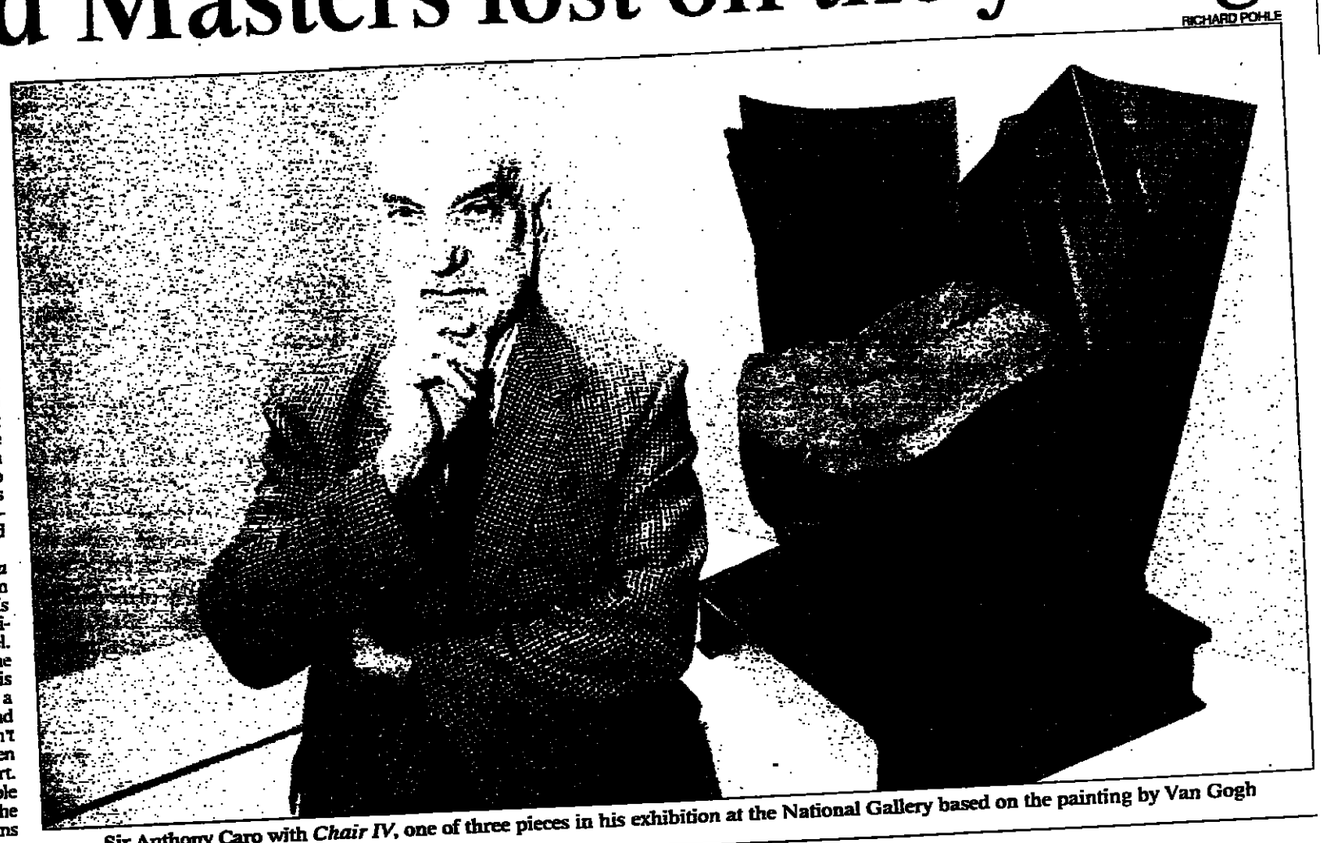
Caro decided to focus on Van Gogh's *Chair* after the director, Neil MacGregor, invited him to choose something from the National's collection. He may be revered by artists, scholars and the public, but Caro has not allowed success to go to his head. He spoke of being daunted by the prospect of showing his sculpture next to a Van Gogh. "Take someone big from history, stand beside them and you feel a bit intimidated."

The Van Gogh inspired five abstracts but he will be showing only three: "I don't want to overfill the gallery with chairs." Initially, he found the exercise particularly difficult and it was not until he looked away from the original that the composition "kicked off something". Until then, he had relied on the picture "as a cribsheet". He said: "I've always wanted to make sculpture which could look like a piece of furniture, but carried some emotional content or drive with it."

Explaining what he was trying to say through this series, he said: "It's about how painting can feed sculpture, how old art can feed new art. Art feeds on art." He felt that he was working in a tradition of artists, just as Rembrandt took his inspiration for *The Descent from the Cross* from Rubens. Caro in turn looked to Rembrandt. He said that his interpretation, however abstract, reflects the "downward pull of the dead figure".

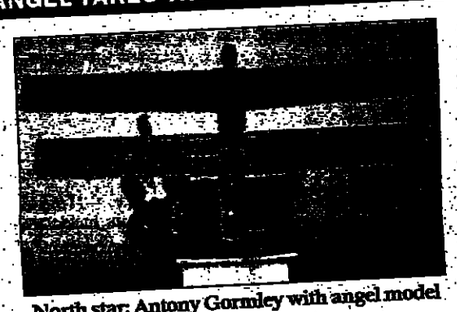
With Giotto's *Madonna and Child and Angels*, from the Uffizi in Florence, his response was an abstract variation in wood and bright steel. "You will be able to see the relationship. The shaping is something like the Giotto — a big thing in the middle and little things round it . . . I don't think there's a divide between abstract and figurative art. That's a mistake a lot of people make. Good or bad is the divide." The exhibition runs from February 25 to May 4.

RICHARD POHLE



Sir Anthony Caro with *Chair IV*, one of three pieces in his exhibition at the National Gallery based on the painting by Van Gogh

### ANGEL TAKES THE SLOW ROAD NORTH



North star: Antony Gormley with angel model

A 200-tonne angel will leave Hartlepool next Saturday on a 15mph journey that will lead it to the lofty position of the most often-seen work of art in the world (Paul Wilkinson writes).

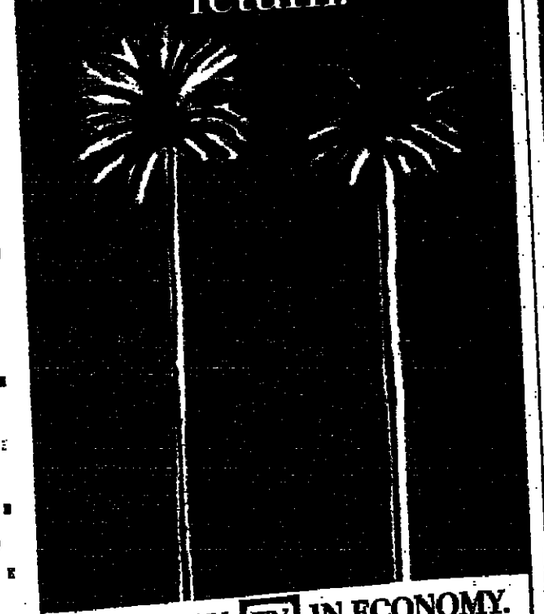
The *Angel of the North*, created by Antony Gormley at a cost of £800,000, will leave the yard of Hartlepool Steel Fabrications in three pieces. The steel and copper giant will be escorted by police on the 35-mile journey to its permanent site on a hilltop overlooking Gateshead, beside the A1.

The 20-metre-tall body and the two wings, whose 54-metre span is nearly that of a jumbo jet, will be moved overnight to minimise traffic disruption.

Erection is expected to take up to 48 hours and the finishing touches another three days. Afterwards, 150,000 people a year are expected to visit the site. Up to 33 million more a year will see the figure as they pass on the A1 and the East Coast railway line.

Virgin MegaSavers.

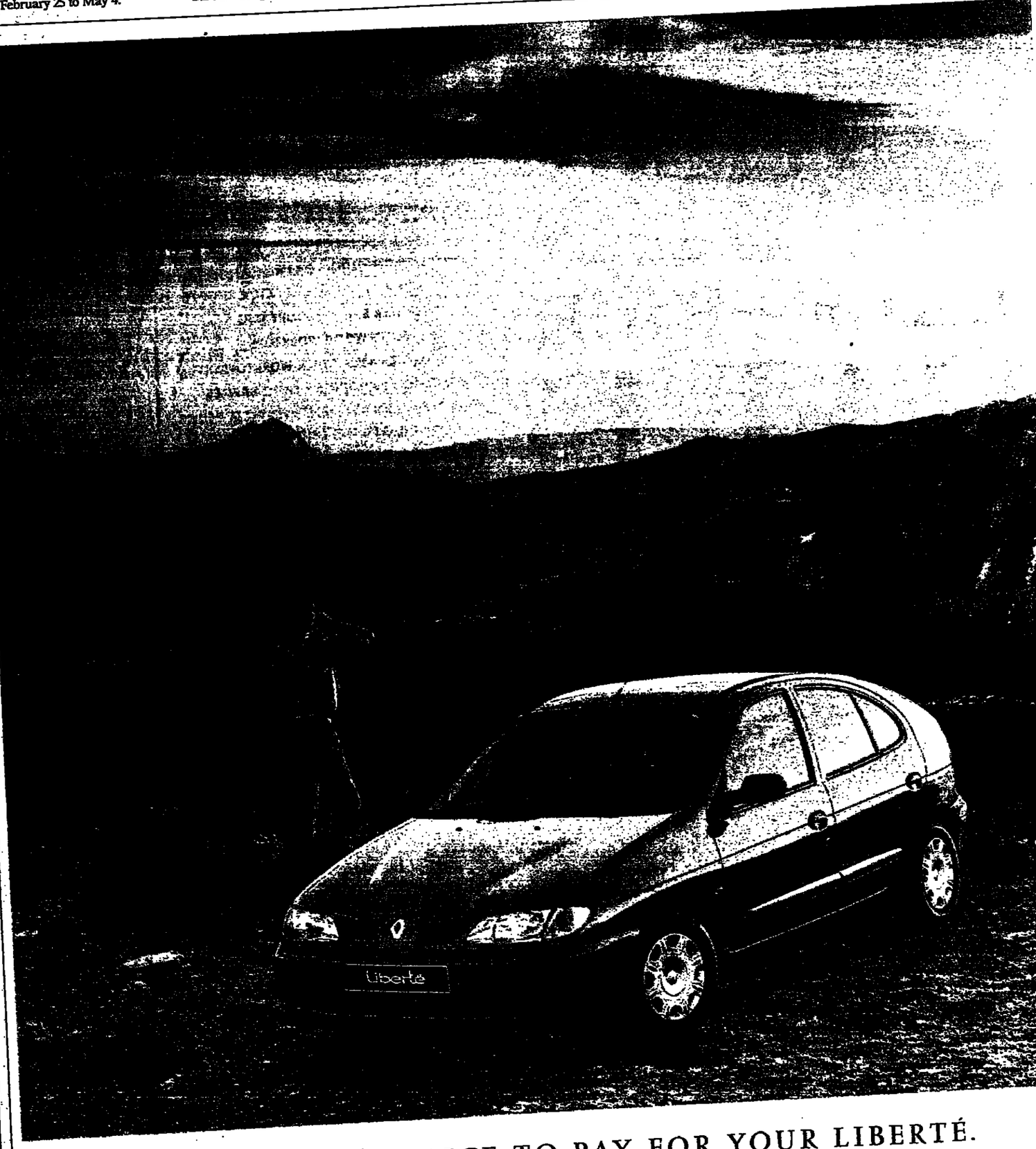
L.A. from £268 return.



SEAT BACK TV IN ECONOMY.

For world beating offers that include all taxes, call us by 19 February on 01293 747 245. Or contact your local travel agent.

virgin atlantic



£9,995. A SMALL PRICE TO PAY FOR YOUR LIBERTÉ.

If liberty is priceless, try Liberté – it's a lot more reasonable. In the new special edition Renault Mégane Liberté, you can head off into the sunset for less than £10,000 (or £10,995 for the Classic saloon version).

What's more, given the Liberté's slick handling, sure grip and advanced 75-bhp engine, who'll blame you? Especially when there's power steering to enjoy as well – plus the option of ABS brakes for just £295.

Of course, you can hardly be free if you're not safe. That's why, with a driver's airbag, Side Impact Protection Bars and front seat belt pretensioners, the Liberté's safety package is unmatched by any of its rivals.

It even comes with one year's free comprehensive insurance. And when you've done roaming, a computer padlock engine immobiliser, anti-drill door locks and security window etching are there to deter anyone intent on taking a Liberté.

| Typical Example* | 14.8% APR | MÉGANE LIBERTÉ HATCHBACK | MÉGANE LIBERTÉ CLASSIC SALOON |
|---|---|---|---|
| Cash Price inc. on the road costs† | | £9,995 | £10,995 |
| Deposit | | £2,622.95 | £2,873.34 |
| Monthly Repayments | | £129.00 x24 | £139.00 x24 |
| Minimum Future Value x1 Monthly Payment | | £6,127.00 | £6,836.00 |
| Total Credit Price | | £11,945.95** | £13,145.34** |

But despite all this – and body coloured bumpers too – you can pay just £129 per month for the hatchback Liberté. So if you've ever fancied slotting your favourite tape into a superb 4-speaker hi-fi and just seeing where the road takes you, feel free.

For more information and details of your nearest Renault Dealer, call 0800 52 51 50.

RENAULT

FROM £129 PER MONTH AND FREE INSURANCE

# Spectre of Lewinsky haunts Blair's feast

## The White House tries to forget its troubles in a glittering show for the British leader, reports **Tom Rhodes** from Washington

THE President had left his saxophone in its case and there was no guitar for the Prime Minister, but when they mounted the stage to join Sir Elton John and Stevie Wonder in the early hours of yesterday morning, Bill Clinton and Tony Blair finally seemed relaxed.

It had been a babyboomers' paradise, an evening of unbridled schmoozing at the White House eclipsed by an exemplary performance from the British rock star and his blind American counterpart in a marquee above the West Terrace.

The glittering dinner in honour of the Blairs was merely the calm before the storm, however. By yesterday morning, his face wiped from the front page of every American newspaper, the Prime Minister faced the realisation that Monica Lewinsky had once more stolen the show.

On the surface at least, the night before had seemed so very different. Cherie Blair and Hillary Clinton, co-ordinated in light gold, were as solid smiling rocks behind their husbands as they greeted the endless stream of Hollywood celebrities, Silicon Valley executives and top Cabinet members.

The golden girls were suitably captivated by comments on their dress code. "No, we just think alike," smiled Mrs Clinton, in a Pamela Dennis lace gown, when asked by Kate Capshaw, the wife of Steven Spielberg.

It was a time for mutual compliments. Mr Clinton described himself as Sir Elton's biggest fan. The British star, presumably thanking Mr Blair for his knighthood, was told: "You thoroughly deserved it".

Conversation was about the future; about two leaders with a joint vision for the millennium: the food, honey-glazed chicken and salmon, followed by spectacular chocolate baskets filled with strawberry mousse and chocolate figures of Big Ben, was a triumph.

Mr Clinton offered a typically polished toast, invoking John Locke, Shakespeare, Bunyan and Auden. The Prime Minister, seemingly a younger, less experienced brother, was unable to mimic his elder political sibling, instead resorting to well-received platitudes about the host and hostess.

Mr Blair even alluded to the unmentionable in his tribute to the First Lady. "She is admired the world over, as we saw indeed in Britain last September at the funeral of Princess Diana, which was a difficult and hard time for us; how she represented America with such dignity and grace," he said.

"And within the last few days, the whole world has seen those qualities of dignity and grace again. Thank you for all that you have done."

The "M-word" was rarely mentioned publicly, but it hung like a spectre over the evening, provoking forthright responses from the President's Hollywood spokesmen, Barbra Streisand and James Brolin, her new husband.

Ms Streisand, one of Mr Clinton's closest Hollywood friends, who has regularly stayed at the White House, praised the American people for their judgment in rejecting the allegations. "I wish the people who do these illegal leaks and the media who exploit them would show similar respect for the right to privavy and the presumption of innocence," said Ms Streisand as news of the latest Lewinsky leak buzzed around the room. "After that, it's no one's business what anyone does behind closed doors."

Mr Brolin was less circumspect. "He's the most fun President we've ever had — I think we can all agree about that," he said. "The fact is, the job is getting done and he's enjoying it."

Other members of the Hollywood elite could not be drawn as they strolled into the entertainment tent. But, amid the purple hue and neat rows of gold-backed chairs in the after-dinner salon, the exchanged glances spoke volumes. In the middle of the most damaging of President Clinton's controversies, it was hard even for his die-hard supporters not to read hidden meaning into "Don't discard me just because you think I mean you harm", from Sir Elton's *Don't Let the Sun Go Down on Me* or Wonder's *I Just Called to Say I Love You.*

Harrison Ford, sporting an earring, clapped politely. Mr Spielberg absent-mindedly platted his wife's hair and patted her back with his fingers as Sir Elton, in his first White House appearance, sang *I Guess That's Why They Call It The Blues.*

Wonder, who performed at last year's inauguration, attempted to break through the evening's decorum, finally pleading: "Snap your fingers, shake your head. Do something! You guys sound like a library meeting."

It was not to be. Even his rendition of *My Cherie Amour*, a not unexpected tribute to Mrs Blair, received only muted applause, and a planned jam between the leaders and the rock legends never happened: babyboomers or not, the image of two leaders rocking into the night was one that both the White House and Downing Street wanted to avoid at all costs.

"It's a pretty high-powered battle of the bands anyway," declared Tom Hanks, a little unconvincingly.

The Blairs, who were clearly tired from their exertions, left immediately after the final duet and missed a finale of dancing led by the White House military band: no longer prepared, it seemed, to fiddle as Washington burned.



Tony Blair and Sir Elton John at the White House dinner given in honour of the Prime Minister

LUKE FRAZZA / AFP



Hillary Clinton and Cherie Blair flank the President before the White House dinner

# Cherie takes British chic to America

By Emma Wilkins

CHERIE BLAIR has turned to Ronit Zilkha and Nicole Farhi, two of her favourite British designers, to supply outfits for her trip to Washington.

Zilkha, 29, designed the glittering, hand-beaded silk dress which Mrs Blair wore to hear Sir Elton John singing at the White House on Thursday night. Earlier in the day Mrs Blair was sporting an olive wool suit, set off with a Liberty scarf, which was also by Zilkha.

Nicole Farhi, the queen of understated chic, has also provided outfits which Mrs Blair is expected to wear this weekend at Camp David. She and the Prime Minister are relaxing there with the Clintons before returning to London later today.

Zilkha is a long-standing favourite of Mrs Blair, who used to pop into her Hampstead shop for a browse. The designer, who was born in Israel and came to Britain in 1986, is known for her "classic with a twist" style of womenswear.

She is particularly hot on easy-to-wear but beautifully tailored suits. Although the Prime Minister's wife is her highest-profile celebrity client, she has also supplied dresses to Jane Asher and Caprice Bourret.

Shopping is now difficult for Mrs Blair, whose time as a leading Q.C. is much in demand. She gathers her fashion advice from Fiona Millar, the stylish partner of Alistair Campbell, the Prime Minister's press secretary, and Carole Caplin.

Ms Caplin, who works as Mrs Blair's personal assistant, has spent the last few weeks arranging a collection of clothes for the trip to Washington.

Mrs Blair is also keen on the designers Betty Jackson and Ally Capellino.

A spokeswoman for Ms Jackson said that Mrs Blair had bought some items from the designer's spring and summer collection but would not say what.


*Survey undertaken by NOP Market Research among 1,000 randomly selected bank customers. Interviews were conducted by telephone between 24 Nov 1997 and 17 Dec 1997. Enquirers must be aged 18 or over. In order to safeguard our customers, certain transactions may require written confirmation. All First Direct customers automatically receive an overdraft of £250, First Direct reserves the right to decline to open an account for you. First Direct credit facilities are subject to status. For written details of our services write to First Direct, Freepost, Leeds LS98 2RF. First Direct is a division of Midland Bank plc. To maintain a quality service, calls may be monitored and/or recorded. LLOYDS Cheque Account details are based on the Classic Account. The costs comprise fees of £8 per month. BARCLAYS Cheque Account details are based on the Barclays Bank Account. The costs comprise fees of £5 per month. NAT WEST Cheque Account details are based on the Current Plus Account. The costs comprise fees of £5 per month. All fees may vary in the future. First Direct variable interest rate for overdrafts of £250 is 12.6% EAR. All information based on authorised overdrafts of £250 for 5 days or more per month and correct at 15 January 1998.

*Member HSBC Group*

if you don't enjoy free banking...

Annual current account charges
(annual fees for use of £250 overdraft)

| | |
|---|---|
| Lloyds Classic | £96.00 |
| NatWest Current Plus | £60.00 |
| Barclays Bank Account | £60.00 |
| First Direct Cheque Account | £0.00 |

...you're with the wrong bank

Join us today and never be with the wrong bank again

0800 24 24 24

Call free anytime quoting reference BC797

or complete the coupon and post to:
First Direct, FREEPOST, Leeds LS98 2RF

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms or Title

Surname

Forename(s)

UK Address

BC798

Postcode

first direct

Free from charges

Banking with First Direct is free because we do not charge Cheque Account customers for everyday banking transactions, even if you're overdrawn. And all our customers automatically receive an overdraft of £250 – also free of any fees. So compared to other high street bank accounts you're better off with First Direct from day one. We're a member of the HSBC Group which is one of the largest banking and financial services organisations in the world, and in the course of a year you'll find we offer more cost effective current account banking. And the service we provide means you benefit in many other ways too.

By telephone, 24 hours a day

We provide the ultimate in convenience. You can bank with us at any time, 365 days (and nights) of the year, from wherever there's a telephone, in your home, office or car. And all UK calls are charged at local rates.

Personal and professional service

Every call is answered by our Banking Representatives. They have all they need at their fingertips to deal with your day-to-day banking needs. And when you require more specialised assistance, such as a loan, they can instantly refer you to someone who can help.

Getting cash is easy



Every Cheque Account customer receives the First Direct Card. This allows you to withdraw up to £500 a day from over 13,500 cash machines around the UK, including those of Midland. It also guarantees cheques for £100 and includes the Switch payment facility.

So is paying bills

Our service includes a free bill payment service. Simply call, tell us who to pay, how much and when, and we do it. This means you can pay your bills at the most convenient time without the need to keep having to remember to organise it.

A full banking service with more benefits

As well as our Cheque Account we offer saving, borrowing, travel and insurance services cost effectively by telephone. Take saving; our rates are always competitive, we offer transfers to and from your Cheque Account. So your money is always working hard without the need for you to do the same.

We work hard to maintain the service

The best people to demonstrate the quality of a banking service are its customers – 81%* of ours have recommended us to their friends and colleagues in the last 12 months.

Transferring your account is straightforward

We appreciate how daunting changing bank accounts can be. So we help you to make it more straightforward. We can save you time by completing the application form with you over the phone, and giving you a decision, subject to a couple of further checks, almost immediately. Then we help you to make transferring your salary, direct debits and standing orders as simple as possible too.

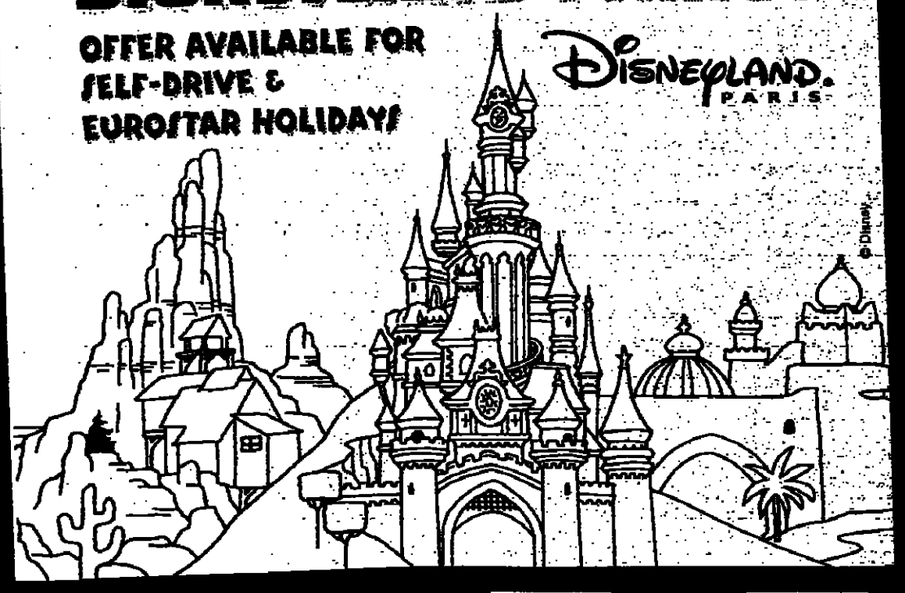
Going Places

THE HOLIDAY MATCHMAKER

KIDS GO FREE TO DISNEYLAND® PARIS!

OFFER AVAILABLE FOR SELF-DRIVE & EUROSTAR HOLIDAYS

Disneyland. PARIS



IT'S SO EASY TO BOOK!

OPEN
VISIT YOUR LOCAL SHOP

TELEPHONE
0161 474 7555

Offer applies to children under the age of 12 sharing a room with 2 full-paying adults and is valid on all self-drive bookings and selected Eurostar holidays from the Going Places programme.

مكبر من الاصل



# Hand that rules the office could rock presidency

Loyal guardian may be ideal witness for Starr, writes **Tom Rhodes**

SHE is the woman who may still bring down the Clinton presidency, the deeply religious personal secretary who until yesterday had been the President's most loyal Oval Office gatekeeper.

Betty Currie, the unflappable black woman who has witnessed the innermost dealings of Mr Clinton's presidential sanctuary, is now at the centre of the most damaging allegations to emerge in the Monica Lewinsky affair. In testimony subpoenaed by Kenneth Starr, the independent prosecutor, Mrs Currie is not only reported to have said that she saw Mr Clinton and the White House trainee alone together; she has also handed over a box of gifts, including a dress, a brooch and a hat pin, to investigators.

According to reports in *The New York Times* yesterday, attributed to lawyers close to Mr Starr, this most private of secretaries has admitted that Mr Clinton asked to see her last month, the day after he had given testimony in the Paula Jones sexual harassment suit.

In his deposition, Mr Clinton denied any sexual relationship with Ms Lewinsky. Mrs Currie is said to have recalled that, during their subsequent meeting, Mr Clinton asked her a series of leading questions, such as: "We were never alone right?"

Mrs Currie, 58, is like no other witness in the increasingly lurid tale of the President's alleged affair. Within the White House, she has a reputation for acute efficiency, as a mother to the younger aides and as a woman who would never make a mistake.

Unlike the senior political aides or even the Secret Service, no one can deny the level of access that Mrs Currie daily enjoyed with the President. She is his personal switchboard, a channel for his mail and messages: if anyone is aware of the comings and goings inside the Oval Office that person must be Betty Currie.

If the reports are true, then she must be a key to corroborating the hours of tapes, secretly recorded by Linda Tripp, in which Ms Lewinsky alleges an affair with Mr Clinton when she was 21.

Beyond the speculation, however, and the vehement denials by her lawyer, the newspaper account reveals telling details about her character. A staunch Democrat who worked on Mr Clinton's 1992 campaign, Mrs Currie is said to have been a reluctant but truthful witness, torn between loyalty to Clinton and an obligation to admit what she knew to Mr Starr. There was nobody at the White House last night who could deny that this tallied with their knowledge of the woman.

For all the bluster by the White House and Mr Starr yesterday over illegal leaks from the grand jury, it was not difficult to sense a glint in the eye of the prosecutor and a gluey sign of resignation from the President. Whatever Mr Clinton may now say, neither he nor his wife can pretend that Mrs Currie was part of any "right-wing" conspiracy: she had worked as one of their closest aides, she was in Little Rock the night they were first elected and she could never be described as a conservative mole.

According to Ms Lewinsky's latest reported testimony, Mr Clinton told her after giving his own evidence that, if she disposed of the cache of his gifts, she could deny ever having received them.

Mrs Currie, it is now reported, has emerged with the gifts and in tandem appears to have provided concrete evidence that Mr Clinton attempted to suborn a witness and obstruct justice: the single most important issue at the heart of the Lewinsky allegations.

The President is known to offer presents to his staff: the occasional pen, a cap or a T-shirt. But there must be very serious questions raised over a dress, a brooch and a hat pin, very personal gifts unlikely to have been mere gestures to a low level trainee.

Earlier this week Mrs Currie emerged as the main signatory on entry logs for Ms Lewinsky's 37 visits to the White House in the 20 months after the former intern left for the Pentagon. Yesterday she took centre stage as the most unimpeachable witness in Mr Starr's chamber.



AP

Betty Currie: one of Clinton's closest aides since his days in Little Rock




## Clinton may invoke executive privilege

**Washington:** President Clinton again hid behind the legal shield of a grand jury investigation yesterday in refusing to answer direct questions regarding his alleged affair with Monica Lewinsky (Tom Rhodes writes). Most experts believe the longer the President fails to answer the allegations, the worse his position will become.

During Watergate, President Nixon employed executive privilege to prevent testimony from key aides, a device also being discussed in the Clinton White House.

# When friends are an embarrassment

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

Friendship never lasts forever in politics. Tony Blair's strong, even effusive, support for President Clinton on his visit to Washington has been necessary and right in the short term. But Mr Blair should remember that Britain's interests are not identical with those of the Clinton Administration.

After all, second-term presidents like Mr Clinton can already see the end of their political lives. Whatever happens in the Lewinsky affair, there will be a new president in January 2001, before Mr Blair seeks a second term. And there is no certainty that the successor will be Al Gore. John Major discovered the dangers of identifying too closely with one president in 1992. The Clinton team believed the Tories had been too partisan in trying to assist the re-election of George Bush and in discrediting their candidate. And many in the Clinton White House never really forgot, or forgave.

In the short term, Mr Blair had no choice but to express sympathy and support for the President. After all, if Mr Clinton does survive, Mr Blair does not want to have appeared distant and detached at a time of crisis. He wants to see a true friend. A clear demonstration of personal unity is also necessary over Iraq and Northern Ireland.

Moreover, as Mr Blair has made clear this week, he feels sympathy for Mr Clinton and has praised his ability to concentrate on the "big picture" in the face of what he tactfully calls 'distractions' and 'turbulence'.

Mr Blair has drawn parallels with the British media's concentration on the personal affairs of Robin Cook, which he argues has been exaggerated out of all proportion to people's interest.

There is a clear identity of rhetoric, campaigning techniques and broad policy approaches between New Labour and the new Democrats. Even if neither Clintonism nor Blairism has yet succeeded in defining a new "third way" ideology, there are similarities of analysis, and of some solutions, as was shown at yesterday's four-hour seminar.

There are, however, medium-term risks for Mr Blair in being too closely identified with Mr Clinton — if for example the military operation in Iraq goes wrong or if the President survives as a lame duck.

Mr Blair needs to think about life after Clinton. His teams need to keep open lines to the Republicans. Sir Christopher Meyer, Britain's politically astute ambassador in Washington, is due to visit Texas next week when he will see Governor George Bush Jnr, already tipped as a strong runner for the Republican nomination in 2000. It is all very well to talk about creating a new radical centre, but no British prime minister can determine whom he deals with in the White House.

PETER RIDDELL


SALE MUST END NEXT WEEKEND.

ONLY 7 DAYS TO GO

UP TO 45% OFF MANOR HOUSE KITCHENS
CANTERBURY MANOR
LIST PRICE FROM £2957.78 OFFER PRICE FROM £1626

UP TO 40% OFF MANOR HOUSE CONSERVATORIES
SEE INSTORE FOR OUR RANGE OF PVCu CONSERVATORIES
NORFOLK HARDWOOD MANOR HOUSE CONSERVATORY -30% OFF
LIST PRICE FROM £4199 OFFER PRICE FROM £2939

UP TO 45% OFF MANOR HOUSE BEDROOMS
LIST PRICE FROM £1050.85 OFFER PRICE FROM £577

SPECIAL OFFER SAVE £50
MONACO BATHROOM
WAS £299 NOW £249

BUY NOW PAY LATER
NO DEPOSIT
ON MANOR HOUSE CONSERVATORIES, KITCHENS, BEDROOMS AND BATHROOMS.
SPEND UP TO £3000 – BUY NOW, PAY IN 3 MONTHS.
SPEND OVER £3000 – BUY NOW, PAY IN 6 MONTHS.
No deposit necessary. The full amount can be repaid in either 3 or 6 months time (depending on loan value) at 0% APR, or the cost spread over 48 months at 24.9% APR. See details below. Excludes Take Away bathrooms.

CALL FREE ON 0500 300 328 FOR YOUR FREE KITCHEN, CONSERVATORY, BEDROOM OR BATHROOM BROCHURE AND YOUR NEAREST STORE.

Wickes Home Improvement Centres

**Offers apply to Manor House ranges only and exclude Galloway, Shropshire, Sussex, Warwick and Fife conservatories, bricks, bases, lens, blinds, flooring, furniture and lead flashing. For all Manor House ranges and conservatories, the percentage reductions are by reference to our list prices. Manor House Kitchens and Bedrooms drawn from our current price list effective from 19th January 1998. Manor House Conservatories drawn from our price list effective from 22nd December 1997. Offers end 15 February 1998. All kitchen prices are based on the model kitchen guide; 1 x 500mm Tall Larder Unit; 1 x Tall Fridge and Freezer Housing; 1 x 500mm Drawerline Base Unit; 1 x 600mm Drawerline Base Unit; 1 x 955mm Corner Base Unit Highline; 1 x 1000mm Sink Base Unit Highline; 2 x Wine Rack; 1 x 300mm Open Ended Base Display; 1 x 600mm Bridging Unit; 1 x 500mm Glass Wall Unit; 1 x 1000mm Wall Unit; 1 x 300mm Open Ended Wall Display; 2 x 600mm Wall Unit; 2 x Cornice; 2 x Pelmet; 2 x Plinth; 1 x Wall End Panel; 1 x Base End Panel. Excludes taps, sinks, worktops, appliances, breakfast bars and accessories. Norfolk conservatory size shown 3.8m x 2.8m x 2.8m approx. All bedroom prices are based on the model bedroom price guide; 1 x 500mm Frame; 3 x 500mm Wardrobe Doors; 2 x Universal Shoe Panels; 2 x 1000mm Bridging Units; 1 x 500mm Bridging Unit; 1 x 1000mm Frame; 2 x 500mm Bedside Cabinets. ◇ = Traditional Cornices; 1 x Plinth. Bedroom offer excludes fronted, which are discounted at 33% off. **All bathroom prices refer to an 8 piece model bathroom comprising 5mm bath, plastic front bath panel, WC pan, cistern and fittings, pedestal, wash basin, plastic toilet seat, and bath and basin taps. Excludes bath end panel. †Finance offers no deposit required. Minimum loan value Manor House Conservatories £3000, Manor House Kitchens and Bedrooms £500, Manor House Bathrooms £350. Typical example: total cash price £1750. Repayments: 1 payment in May 1998 of £1750. Total amount payable £1750 at 0% APR. Or, commencing May 1998, 48 monthly payments at £55.61. Total amount payable £2669.28 at 24.9% APR. Offer excludes Take Away bathrooms. Credit is available only to persons aged 18 years or over subject to status. Written quotations are available on request instore. Offer ends 15 February 1998.

EVEN MORE
FREE CALLS FROM vodafone

FREE LATEST NOKIA 3110 WORTH £29.99
FREE PHILIPS DIGITAL HOME ANSWERPHONE
FREE UP TO £7 WORTH OF CALLS PER MONTH
FREE PORTABLE HANDS FREE KIT WORTH £45
FREE LEATHER CARRY CASE & IN CAR ADAPTOR
FREE NEXT DAY DELIVERY
PER SECOND BILLING
REDUCED CALL CHARGES
On peak rate 8.5p (10p inc VAT) Per Min
Peak rate 29.79p (35p inc VAT) Per Min
14 DAY PEACE OF MIND GUARANTEE

NEW LOWER TARIFF
NOKIA
vodafone
NOKIA 3110
● Latest Nokia GSM Phone
● 2.75 hr talk time/95 hr battery
● Compact and lightweight
Ref: TM0702

Lines open Mon-Thurs 8am-10pm • Fri 8am-8pm • Sat 9am-6pm • Sun 9am-5pm
Have your credit card to hand and Dial-a-Phone now on
0800 00 00 77
Visa
DIAL-a-PHONE

Limited offer subject to status, availability and a 12 month airtime contract through Dial-a-Phone (new 28 day notice period) signed upon receipt of each phone. Itemised billing and payment by direct debit are mandatory. Free delivery within mainland UK, Saturday deliveries subject to surcharge. Peak Days and 8.00am-6.00pm. Written terms and conditions available on request. Dial-a-Phone Ltd. Registered No. 2080595 Unit 18, Kingsbury Trading Estate, Bensington Way, London NW9 8AU.

# British editor fails to humour advertisers



Kennedy: unrecognised

## What was that name?

WHEN Caroline Kennedy was summoned as a possible juror to the Criminal Court in Lower Manhattan, the judge obviously did not recognise the late President Kennedy's daughter. He asked if she or her family had ever been a victim of violent crime. Caroline muttered a quiet "Yes".

☐ *Relationships in New York can be hell. A friend broke up with his girlfriend after they had a row in a delicatessen over what type of mozzarella cheese to use in lasagne. He said milky and fresh. She said packaged and pre-sliced. I suppose it was important at the time.*

JAMES BONE'S NEW YORK



A VALIANT British effort to revive America's leading satirical magazine has fallen flat on its face with advertisers, and the venerable organ has ceased publication.

*Spy* magazine became a New York institution in the "Roaring Eighties" when it skewered the excesses of high-rollers such as the property magnate, Donald Trump — whom it famously dubbed the "short-fingered vulgarian".

Its deeply ironic tone, a deliberate echo of *Private Eye*, infected the established press and its founders — Graydon Carter and Kurt Andersen — went on to the commanding heights of the New York media-scape. *Spy*, meanwhile, struggled to recapture its past glory.

Jo Colman, a member of the English mustard family, bought the magazine in 1994 and hired as editor the Westminster-educated funny-man Bruno Maddox, brother of *The Times* Washington bureau chief, Bronwen Maddox.

The lanky, bubble-eyed Mr Maddox, who looks like the missing evolutionary link between Stephen Fry and Woody Allen, sought to take it into the "kinder, gentler" Nineties by shifting its line of fire from the downright vulgar to those with affectations of sincerity.

"It was almost all Donald Trump and endless super-powerful midgets vomiting over people in nightclubs," he explained over a pint in a Greenwich Village hostelry. "What I was interested in was the 'aux-pure' — people who have $30 million but wear baseball hats. Affectation was the main enemy. That was the 'new *Spy*'." To signal the changing times, John F. Kennedy Jr, the late President's son who likes to pretend he's just a regular Joe, replaced Mr Trump as the main target of *Spy*'s scorn.

Mr Colman blames cold hard cash for the closure. Even with a circulation of 120,000, the magazine was unable to secure enough advertising to make it a viable concern. To President Clinton's enormous relief, America now finds itself without a major satirical publication, just when it needs it most. One issue that will now never make the news-stands was to contain a police artist's sketch of the President's infamous "distinguishing characteristic".

*Spy* is for sale to the highest bidder, and Mr Colman believes a comeback is inevitable. But he suggests it would be cheaper to do a "down-and-dirty" version on grubby newsprint, not glossy stock, à la *Private Eye*.

☐ *Caveat emptor: the Ravenite Social Club, the notorious Little Italy haunt of jailed godfather John Gotti, has been put up for sale by the US Marshal's Service. The asking price for this long-time Mafia clubhouse plus the 16 apartments above is $1 million (about £617,000). The Ravenite was once under such intense surveillance that the FBI tried to bug the parking meters.*

DAVID HOWELLS



Bruno Maddox, "the missing evolutionary link between Stephen Fry and Woody Allen"

## Critic writes off 'shrill morality play'

MARK RAVENHILL'S Royal Court hit *Shopping and ***ing*, whose title triggered heavy advance ticket sales for its Big Apple run, has failed to impress *The New York Times*, often credited with mystical power to make or break a show.

"This posturing bad boy of a play has a censorious Puritan's heart," drama critic Ben Brantley moaned. "Though Mr Ravenhill has a poet's gift for sustaining and evolving patterns of imagery, his talent is neither subtle nor particularly original. And as directed by Gemma Bodinetz and Max Stafford-Clark, *Shopping* ... emerges as a shrill morality tale, a jeremiad writ in neon." But it won better notices in the *New York Post* ("an unexpectedly important play"), the *New York Daily News* ("a fierce, unblinking evocation of the petty horrors of our times") and *Newsday* ("a mean, smart, perversely entertaining and oddly didactic morality play").


BT just made the weekend cheaper.

www.bt.com





Local Calls 1p National Calls 3p

Local weekend calls with BT are just 1p a minute. And thanks to the latest price cut (the 13th in the last 2 years) national weekend calls are now only 3p a minute (5p minimum charge per call).

BT has also designed a range of discounts to suit the calls you make, giving you extra savings on your local, national and international calls.

If anyone claims they can give you cheaper calls than BT, call 0800 003 800 to check you're getting all your discounts.

| See how BT's discounts save you EXTRA money. | | |
|---|---|---|
| DISCOUNT | HOW YOU SAVE | SAVING |
| Friends & Family *10 Numbers* | Save each time to those you call most often. | 10% |
| NEW BestFriend (Savings start 1st May) | Get an extra 10% savings off your top UK Friends & Family number. | 20% |
| PremierLine | Add PremierLine to Friends & Family for 25% off your top 10 numbers (15% savings on mobile calls). | 25% |
| Country Calling Plan *30 Countries* | Save even more on international calls when you add BT's Country Calling Plan to the above discounts. | Up to 43% |

BT It's good to talk

Call us NOW on 0800 003 800 and check you're getting all your discounts.

FRIENDS & FAMILY IS NOT AVAILABLE WITH LIGHT USER SCHEME. BESTFRIEND – EXCLUDES MOBILE. PREMIERLINE COSTS £6 PER QUARTER. COUNTRY CALLING PLAN COSTS £1 PER COUNTRY PER MONTH. 5 CALLING PLANS TO 30 COUNTRIES AVAILABLE. EXCLUDES BT CHARGECARD CALLS. BT 25% OFF SALE ON EXTRA CALLS COMBINES WITH COUNTRY CALLING PLANS TO GIVE SAVINGS OF 43% ON QUALIFYING ADDITIONAL CALLS TO THE APPROPRIATE COUNTRY. MINIMUM CHARGE 5P PER CALL. CAN BE 2.5P WITH ALL THESE DISCOUNTS.


# Death row women draw spotlight but lack Tucker charm

FROM TUNKU VARADARAJAN IN NEW YORK

"ONE down, 43 to go," said a placard in Huntsville, Texas, earlier this week, referring to the execution of Karla Faye Tucker and the number of women who remain on death row in America.

Tucker's death, and the international media circus that accompanied it, should now ensure that the next women to die will be jolted out of their obscurity and elevated to exposure on prime-time television. Two, Judy Buenoana and Erica Sheppard, come up for execution on March 30 and April 20 respectively, but they lack most of the characteristics that helped Tucker to capture America's imagination.

Tucker had five features that combined to make her a winning figure: she was a woman, white, attractive, articulate and a born-again Christian. Buenoano, known in Florida as the "wicked widow", is also white and a born-again Christian. But she is middle-aged, sour of face and utterly inarticulate.

The 24-year-old Sheppard, who will also die in Huntsville, is Tucker's polar opposite: she is black, spittingly aggressive and unrepentant. Unlike Tucker, she wants to die and has asked recently for all her appeals to be dropped. She was sentenced to death in 1993 for killing Marilyn Meagher, a property broker, in the course of a violent robbery. Sheppard has not "found" God, is hostile to the media and refuses now to meet lawyers of any stripe. Her death by lethal injection in April is a virtual certainty.

The 54-year-old Buenoano's case is more complex, because her Christian "rebirth" raises the same questions of reform and rehabilitation that were asked in the case of Tucker. She was found guilty in 1984 of the murder in 1971 of her husband. He had just returned home to Florida after a tour of duty in Vietnam when she poisoned him with arsenic and cashed in his life insurance policy.

The investigation into her husband's death followed her arrest in 1980 for the murder of her paralysed 19-year-old son, who was found drowned in a lake. Buenoano had collected his insurance, too.

In jail, like Tucker, Buenoano has found God. But she lacks the executed Texan's instinctive charm, her media-savvy personality and youthful good looks. When she dies, she will become the first woman to be executed by the electric chair since the death penalty was restored in 1976.




هكذا من الاصل



THE TIMES SATURDAY FEBRUARY 7 1998

# Infallible rifle aims to end bloodshed



Inventor Graham Hawkes, left, is hoping to put snipers out of work, writes **Giles Whittell**

IN A quiet backwater 20 miles from San Francisco, a British engineer has built a weapon that he hopes will change the way American police use guns. It could also, since it cannot miss, put snipers out of business.

The machine, due to be unveiled on Monday with a $50,000 (£30,000) price tag, is the brainchild of a man better known for building mini-submarines. His new device is a remote-controlled rifle that can track a moving target at 30mph and be fired from the safety of an armoured van.

Its designer claims the gun could put an end to needless bloodshed in settings ranging from bank hold-ups to hostage crises. Developed with the help of Swat team marksmen, it also has the backing of a former head of Britain's Special Boat Service, who said it could have uses in Northern Ireland.

Graham Hawkes is an improbable pioneer in the field of armed combat. The bespectacled inventor toils in relative obscurity eight time zones from his native London at the north end of San Francisco Bay. Two ceramic-winged submersibles have pride of place in his workshop, one of them waiting for a $3 million nose cone able to withstand the pressure of eight vertical miles of water at the bottom of the Marianas Trench.

Beyond the submarines, Mr Hawkes's latest invention sits under a cloth. Set on a carbon-fibre tripod, a .308 semi-automatic rifle is connected by 50ft of cable to a rucksack-full of electronics, a viewfinder, a joystick and a trigger.

The joystick controls battery-powered servo motors that aim the weapon and a miniature telescopic video camera mounted on it. Calibrated cross-hairs in the viewfinder show where the bullets will hit, with a maximum error of a few centimetres when firing at long range in high winds. A hydraulic damper absorbs the gun's recoil and keeps it on target.

"We quickly got bored of hitting bull's eyes all the time," said Mr Hawkes, producing video tapes from a nearby shooting range to prove it. He and his staff are now practising on moving targets.

The gun has been built in six months in response to a harrowing shootout in North Hollywood last year. Two policemen were critically injured and 17 others wounded in a two-hour battle with bank robbers emboldened by drugs, body armour and machine-guns. Mr Hawkes's solution is to remove marksmen from the line of fire, where they necessarily become targets.

Others have had similar ideas. The French Army is working on a computer-aided gun known as "Papop", but a prototype is not due until 2005.

Mr Hawkes's device, dubbed the Telepresent Rapid Aiming Platform, or Trap, goes on display next week at a Washington trade show attended by police forces, the FBI and most US Special Forces units.

Potential clients in America include the CIA, presidential security units, embassies and even prisons, said Mr Hawkes, who worked for the Atomic Energy Authority and Plessey's underwater weapons unit before moving to California. The list does not include the public.

This eerily effective weapon may yet save lives. It may also prove an ingenious method of financing Mr Hawkes' quest to the depths of the Pacific. The technology needed to complete his latest submersible, *Deep Flight 2*, is available, but at a price — the cost of about a hundred Traps.




# Afghan earthquake kills 4,000 in north

Islamabad: About 4,000 people are reported to have been killed by a severe earthquake in the northern Afghan province of Takhar, the Pakistan-based Afghan Islamic Press news service reported yesterday.

The quake hit the city of Rustaq, 150 miles north of Kabul, destroying 15,000 homes, said Sher Mohammed, a spokesman for the military alliance that controls the area and opposes the Taleban Islamic movement. Tremors rocked the mountainous area north of the provincial capital, Taloqan, for hours afterwards.

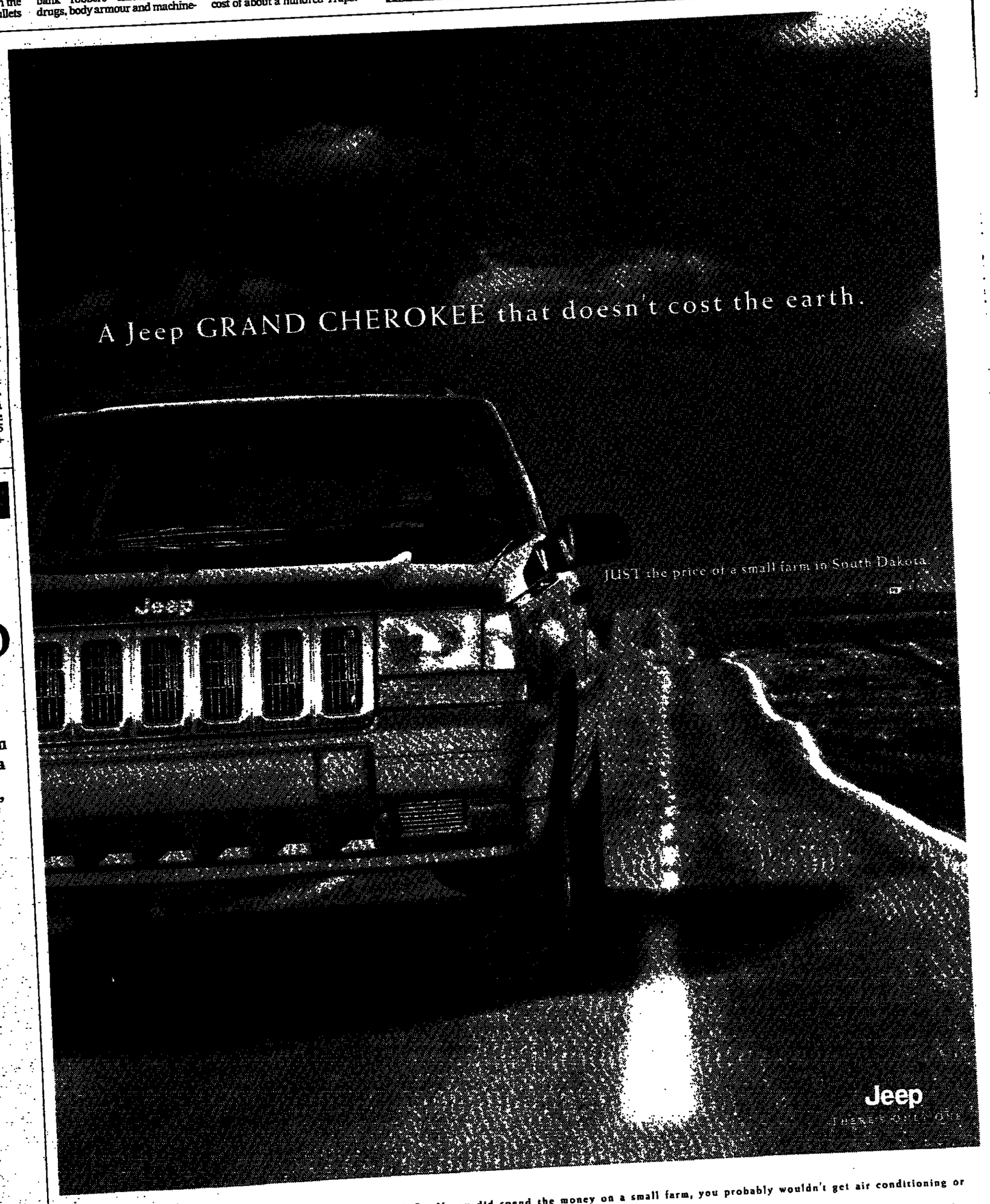
The US Geological Survey in Golden, Colorado, put the magnitude of Wednesday's quake at 6.1 on the Richter scale. Mr Mohammed said landslides caused much of the destruction. "The hills collapsed into each other, making a huge crater in the earth," he said. Compounding the damage, he added, Taleban jets dropped cluster bombs on Taloqan yesterday, injuring 12 people.

News of the quakes in the islolated northern province, which borders Tajikistan, did not reach neighbouring Pakistan until yesterday, and details remained difficult to confirm.

Officials with the United Nations and the Red Cross in Pakistan said they had heard reports of the earthquakes, but could not confirm the casualty figures. Taleban officials in the Pakistani capital, Islamabad, said that they were unaware that an earthquake had occurred.

The Taleban, which controls 85 per cent of Afghanistan, is locked in battles with a northern opposition alliance that holds the remaining 15 per cent of the country, including Takhar. *(Reuters/AP)*

STEVEN PINKER
HOW THE MIND WORKS
'The genius of Pinker's book lies in his account of just how amazing a machine the human mind is ... deserves to be another smash hit.'
THE SUNDAY TELEGRAPH
'He writes with the comic verve of Martin Amis or Woody Allen'
THE TIMES
'Witty, lucid and ultimately enthralling'
THE OBSERVER
'Erudite, stimulating and provocative'
THE INDEPENDENT ON SUNDAY
'Big, brash and a lot fun'
TIME MAGAZINE
'A glittering tour de force'
SPECTATOR
ALLEN LANE THE PENGUIN PRESS



# Colombo blast as Prince departs

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN COLOMBO

A BOMB exploded in central Colombo yesterday, hours after the Prince of Wales left Sri Lanka amid the tightest security seen in the island's capital. The explosion amounted to a message of defiance from the Tamil Tiger rebels, demonstrating that nowhere is safe from its suicide bombers.

Police believe the bomb was strapped to the body of a young man or woman from the Black Tigers, the suicide squad that has wreaked havoc on property, shipping and military targets. It was aimed at a military checkpoint. The death toll was at least nine: five military personnel and four civilians, including the bomber.

A senior police official at the blast site said among the victims were two female soldiers and three airforce men manning the checkpoint. A sniffer dog escaped unhurt. Police said they had recovered an identity card which they believed belonged to the suicide bomber.

The Prince of Wales had been in the country for Wednesday's celebrations marking the 50th anniversary of independence, to the anxiety of security officials who knew that a bomb blast in the capital during his visit would be a propaganda coup, even if it came nowhere near threatening the many VIPs staying there. Colombo has been subjected to traffic chaos for days because of the security surrounding the Prince and other foreign dignitaries.

The blast happened close to a hotel where visiting journalists and royal officials stayed this week. Bodies of victims were left lying in the sun as police gingerly inspected a white van, largely undamaged, that may have transported the bomber to the site.

A crowd watched quietly — a strangely passive scene that demonstrated how accustomed people have become to attacks on the city. Its main business district is substantially in ruins from two huge truck bombs last year. The Tigers' aim is to cripple the economy.

It is a measure of the rebels' fanaticism that suicide bombs are strapped to the body in such a way that the perpetrator's head is severed and sent spinning off as a projectile that would kill or injure anybody in its way. It explains why the decapitated heads of suicide killers are so often unmarked, while almost nothing can be found of the rest of the body.

There were fears all week that the Tigers would seek to capture attention with a terrorist attack during the independence anniversary, and 15,000 security personnel were deployed for the occasion. The Prince's visit was almost called off when Sri Lanka refused to allow his bodyguards to carry guns, but Colombo relented after long and often difficult negotiations with British officials.

The Prince left the country several hours before the explosion, after formal send-off ceremonies, for Nepal and the mountain state of Bhutan, the last of the Himalayan Buddhist kingdoms, an ecologically pristine country that guards its isolation and culture from millions of land-hungry Nepalese who have spread across the region, devastating the environment. Back problems permitting, the Prince intends to take some private time for trekking.

JOHN STILLWELL/PA



The Prince of Wales walks past a Hindu tiger statue at the Patan Durbar palace in Kathmandu yesterday. He flew to Nepal after visiting Sri Lanka

# Sci-fi author makes perfect re-entry into high society

**Christopher Thomas reports how Arthur C. Clarke had the last laugh**

A bronze bust of Arthur C. Clarke stands in the lobby of the Galle Face Hotel, the splendid, dog-eared colonial structure that is to Sri Lanka what Raffles is to Singapore. The last chapters of *3001: The Final Odyssey* were completed in one of its rooms, away from the intrusions of telephones and people, overlooking an ocean as changeable as the old man's moods.

He had the last laugh this week, convincing everybody that he was hiding in humiliation in one of his beach houses — he has one on the southern coast near Unawatuna and another in the eastern port city of Trincomalee. Then he turned up at Thursday's state banquet to shake hands with an apparently unflustered Prince of Wales, laughing and in fine form.

Neither the government-owned *Daily News*, nor *The Island*, the main daily newspapers, made more than a passing mention this week of the sex controversy surrounding Sir Arthur, 80. Sri Lanka continues to honour and protect him as it has for 42 years. The stampede of support has been extraordinary.

The state-owned Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation reported briefly that the British science fiction writer had asked for a postponement of his knighthood ceremony that was to have been conducted this week by the Prince in Colombo. But the story of his alleged sexual predilections disappeared. Nobody in Sri Lanka believed a word of it, anyway.

The writer long ago won the hearts of his adopted home, and there is outrage that his reputation has been impugned so late in life by comments supposedly made to a British newspaper which asked him whether he had ever paid for sex with boys.

Sir Arthur talks incessantly, dashing up and down unconnected avenues of thought, veering away to new ideas without warning, his grandiloquent manner of expression and his tendency to hyperbole producing a cocktail of contradictions and non-sequiturs. It is easy to misunderstand him. He flies off in all directions at once: keeping up is hard.

Nothing will shake Sri Lanka's pride and faith in the Somerset-born author, who stumbled across the beautiful Indian Ocean island on his way to Australia in 1954 and who returned within two years, never to leave. "I have made up my mind," he wrote to a friend in 1956. "I am settling in Ceylon and commuting once a year to the US. The contrast between here and England is fantastic and it's strange to feel free after all these years."

"Where in the world do people speak English," he said recently, looking around his modern uncluttered home, the air-conditioning turned up to chilly, his pink-ribboned chihuahua slobbering on his hand, "where you are able to support an establishment like this so cheaply?"

He has tax-free status and his standing is so high that a special law known to all as the Clarke Act was passed by the island's National Assembly to allow foreigners to take up permanent residence in certain circumstances.

He has three adopted Sri Lankan daughters — a brief, childless marriage ended more than 30 years ago — and the ménage that surrounds him is his extended family. During his temporary absence from the spotlight this week he refused to take all but a few calls. He was busy timing his re-entry. He did it magnificently.



Arthur C. Clarke at this week's state banquet in Colombo in honour of the Prince of Wales

INTEREST FREE OPTION** ON A WIDE RANGE OF KITCHEN APPLIANCES

THE COMET PRICE index

YOU CAN'T BUY BETTER

- Lowest sale prices guaranteed
- Over 100 of our best selling top brand products
- In the national newspapers every Saturday
- Updated daily on Teletext Channel 4 p425

SALE NOW ON

OVER 900 PRODUCT LINES REDUCED

BUY NOW PAY UP TO FEB 1999* ON A WIDE RANGE OF HOME ENTERTAINMENT

COMET IS THE BIGGEST OUT-OF-TOWN ELECTRICAL RETAILER, SO THERE'S BOUND TO BE A STORE NEAR YOU

For local store details, see Teletext Ch4 p425 or phone free on 0500 425 425.

Visit our web site on: www.comet.co.uk

COMET

THE COMET PRICE CANNOT BE BEATEN

EASY WAYS TO PAY

MONEY BACK WARRANTY

AWARD-WINNING PRODUCTS

29.9% APR

Lowest Line Rental £14.99

SAVE £306.00

NOW £9.99

ODYSSEY direct

0500 740 000

vodafone

# Giant standing stones facing a shaky future

**Simon de Bruxelles** reports how archaeologists compared notes with an 18th century antiquary

ENGRAVINGS by an 18th-century antiquary have helped to predict the impending collapse of two massive standing stones at Avebury, Wiltshire, one of Britain's most important prehistoric monuments.

The two giant stones, each standing about 16ft and weighing more than 20 tonnes, appear to be leaning at a precarious angle. But because they are irregularly shaped and have stood for 4,000 years, archaeologists could not be certain they really were in danger of toppling over.

Comparisons between drawings made by the eccentric prehistorian William Stukeley in the 1720s and a 3D computer-generated model produced last year have now confirmed that the stones have tilted significantly during the past 250 years.

The twin monoliths known as the Cove are among the largest stones at the neolithic monument that dwarfs Stonehenge. Stukeley described them as "the most august work at this day upon the globe of the Earth". They stand near the centre of a ring of standing stones erected within a massive circular ditch and bank earthwork 30ft deep and four-fifths of a mile in circumference. The earthwork also encloses the village of Avebury, much of it built using standing stones broken up in the early 18th century.

Although Stukeley took liberty with the dimensions of the stones, drawing tiny figures alongside to make them look even more impressive, his field sketches in the Bodleian Library show the stones standing almost upright and near a row of cottages. A picture made in the 1880s using a camera obscura shows that by then the stones had already begun to tilt slightly. The demolition of the cottages in 1956 and the footsteps of half a million visitors a year added to the "alarming" lean.

Chris Gingell, an archaeologist who manages the world heritage site for the National Trust, said yesterday: "The next step will be to survey what's under the soil using ground-penetrating radar.

"But if they follow the pattern of other stones at Avebury there will probably be no more than a metre of stone underground, which isn't enough when the centre of gravity is so high."

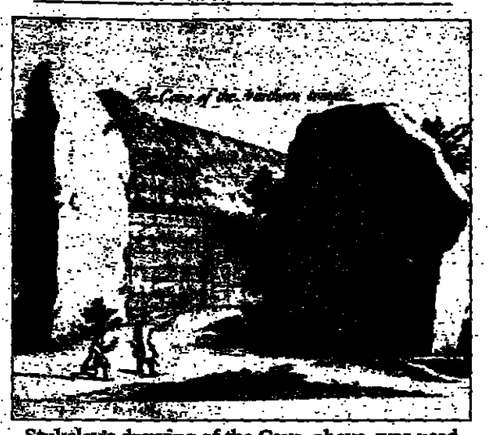
The stones have been fenced off to keep visitors at a distance. Besides the danger of someone being crushed there is also the risk of damage to the stones themselves.

The perils of standing too close to a falling monolith were revealed in 1938 when the crushed skeleton of a medieval treasure hunter was found beneath a stone that was being re-erected.

The man had been digging a pit beneath it, either in search of buried gold or while trying to topple the "pagan" stone. His possessions included a pair of scissors, an iron probe and a small leather pouch of coins dating from between 1310 and 1320.

Structural engineers have been called in to advise on the best way of stabilising the leaning stones. Digging a new hole and filling it with concrete, the technique used in the 1930s, is no longer considered acceptable. Rosie Edmunds, an archaeologist working at Avebury, said: "There are layers of archaeological material in the pit which we want to leave undisturbed for future generations. It might tell us much about how the stones were erected and simply pouring in concrete would destroy that evidence. There is also an argument for leaving the stones leaning because that is all part of their history, although we cannot afford to let them fall over."

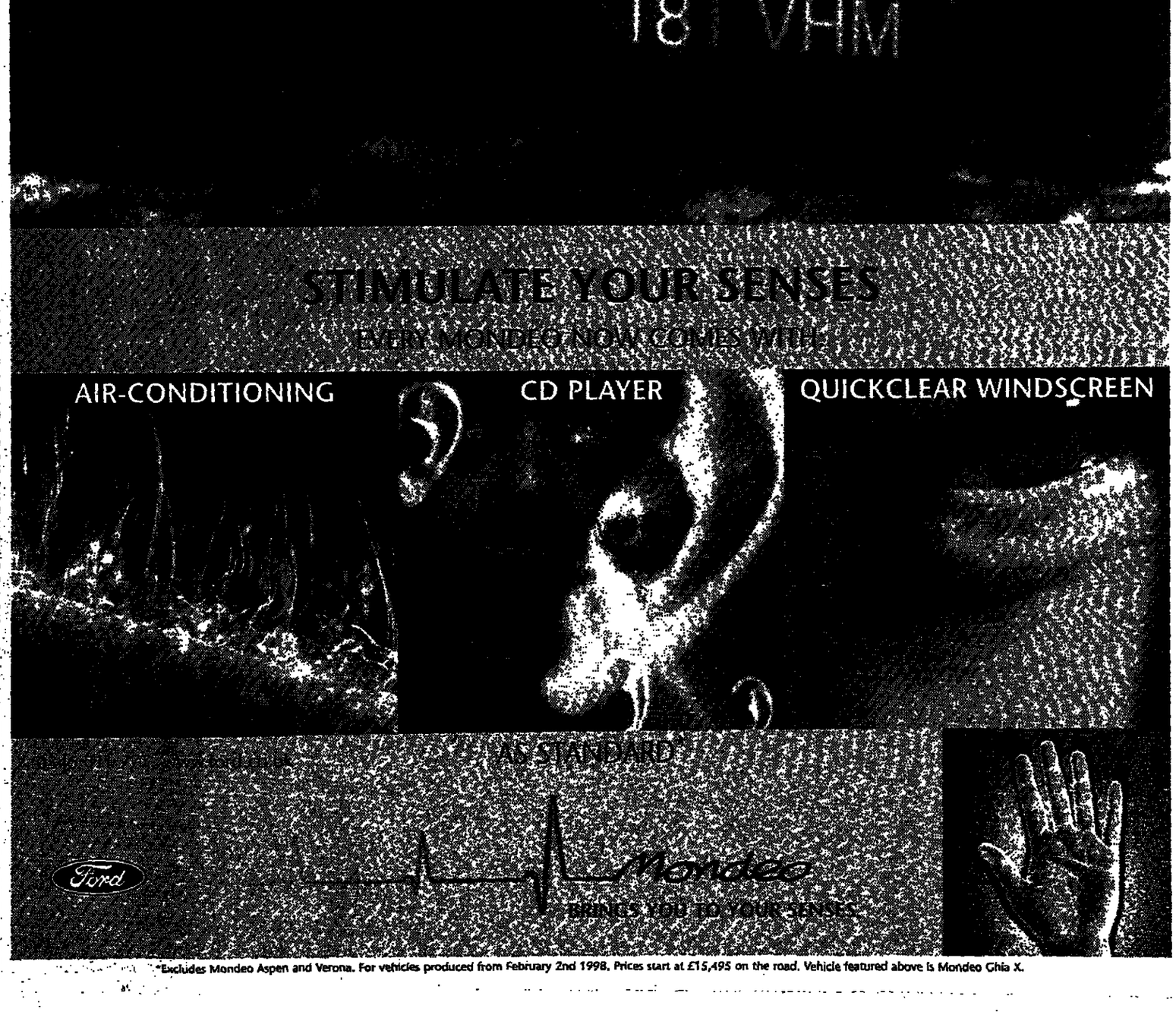
Stukeley became a clergyman and later wrote the *Vegetable Sermons*, in which he illustrated the glory of God's works through various vegetables. But it is for his books on Britain's ancient monuments, including the *Itinerarium Curiosum* and *Abury*, and for his images of druid ceremonies around the stones that he made the most lasting impression.



Stukeley's drawing of the Cove, above, was used by the National Trust to see how much the stones have moved. Today the stones are fenced off, right

JAY WILLIAMS




*Excludes Mondeo Aspen and Verona. For vehicles produced from February 2nd 1998. Prices start at £15,495 on the road. Vehicle featured above is Mondeo Ghia X.




EVERY PARENT THINKS THEIR CHILD IS THE BEST. ONLY NINETY A YEAR CAN BE RIGHT.

The Wellbeck syllabus is science based. You'll need at least 5 good GCSEs (including Maths, Science and English) to be considered. Tuition is free. For an information pack, send this coupon to: Army Officer, Freepost 1935, Bristol BS1 3YX or call 0845 300 111, quoting ref: 2556.

MR/MS _____ INITIAL _____

SURNAME _____

ADDRESS _____

_____

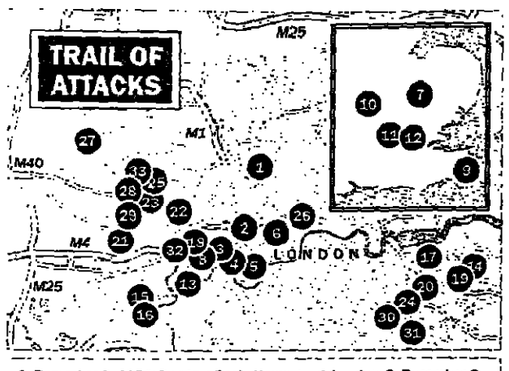
_____

POSTCODE _____ Age(16-24) _____

The Army is committed to Equal Opportunities. http://www.army.mod.uk W

ARMY
BE THE BEST

# Police warn of Mardi Gra bomb danger




1. December 6, 1994: Barclays Bank, Hampstead, London. 2. December 6, 1994: Barclays Bank, Ladbroke Grove, London. 3. December 6, 1994: Barclays Bank, Hammersmith, London. 4. December 6, 1994: Earls Court, London 5. December 6, 1994: Barclays Bank, Kensington, London. 6. December 6, 1994: Barclays Bank, Paddington, London. 7. May 19, 1995: Private address, Cambridge. 8. June 9 1995: Pub in Chiswick. 9. June 10 1995: Camera shop, Dymchurch. 10. June 20, 1995: Barclaycard HQ, Northampton. 11. July 5, 1995: Barclays Bank, Berkhamsted, Herts. 12. July 14, 1995: Private address, Welling. 13. July 15, 1995: Private address, Richmond, Surrey. 14. August 19, 1995: Private address, Welling, Kent. 15. September 12, 1995: Office in Whitton, Middx. 16. September 12, 1995: Another office in Whitton, Middx. 17. September 27, 1995: Office in Woolwich, London. 18. October 2, 1995: Rymans in Chiswick, London. 19. October 24, 1995: Telephone box, Welling, Kent. 20. November 20, 1995: Telephone box in Eltham, London. 21. December 12, 1995: Private address, Southall, Middx. 22. December 19, 1995: Telephone box, Acton, London. 23. January 30, 1996: Barclays Bank, Ealing, London. 24. February 5, 1996: Barclays Bank, Eltham, London. 25. April 20, 1996: Barclays Bank, Ealing, London. 26. September 2, 1997: Police station, London. 27. November 15 1997: Sainsbury's, Ruislip, Middx. 28. November 15, 1997: Sainsbury's Ealing, London. 29. November 15, 1997: Sainsbury's, Greenford, Middx. 30. November 18, 1997: Chislehurst. 31. November 18, 1997: Sainsbury store, Lee Green, London. 32. January 16, 1998: nr. Sainsbury's Chiswick, London. 33. February 5, 1998: nr, Sainsbury's Ealing, London.

**The devices used in the attacks could be lethal, police say after latest explosion. Stewart Tendler reports**

A DEVICE that exploded at a bus stop, showering rush-hour shoppers with debris on Thursday evening, was the work of the Mardi Gra bomber. Scotland Yard detectives confirmed yesterday. The home-made bomb was hidden in a plastic supermarket bag left by a stop in West London.

The device was planted close to the west Ealing branch of Sainsbury's. The shop was the target twice last autumn. The bomber has now attacked 33 times since he began operations in December 1994, and struck at a branch of Barclays Bank in an extortion campaign.

Detectives admit to being baffled about the identity of the attacker. There have been suggestions that the bomber is a woman or a man who has disguised himself as a woman to merge into crowds of shoppers. After one attack in Kent last year police found some abandoned women's clothing.

Witnesses to the latest attack were yesterday urged to come forward. Police explosives experts said the device was small but potentially lethal. A spokesman said that although no one had been injured in the latest incident, the bomber was very dangerous, and shoppers were urged to be alert to other attacks.

The latest device follows the pattern of recent attacks. It was made using a home-made shotgun created from a tube and spring and linked to a timer. In other attacks the bomber hid the device in a video-cassette case buried among shopping in a Sainsbury's bag. This time the device was left in an empty Sainsbury's bag.

The attacks began with demands for cash from Barclays and Barclaycard. Devices were left at branches in suburban London and the Home Counties, and sent to bank officials and other targets. Several attacks were made on shops that had Barclaycard signs on their doors. Last year the attacks switched to Sainsbury's and there were six attacks in two months.



Police believe the bomber could be a middle-aged man with some engineering skill who has a workshop in a garden shed or loft. One investigator who has looked at the case said: "He is a skilled artisan and may have some engineering training." The devices have developed from the first clumsy efforts but the bomber is still relying for his explosive on shotgun cartridges which are reasonably easy to buy. Detectives say that the bomber has left few clues.

American criminal psychologists who have investigated similar cases in the United States say the bomber is probably a thwarted businessman who went broke and blames the bank or the supermarket for some reason.

In Britain, David Canter, a leading criminal psychologist from Liverpool University, has said that he believes the bomber is deriving a thrill from the attacks and the police hunt. Professor Canter said he thought that the attacks had been sparked off by a perceived slight. The campaign had become the driving force in the bomber's life.

Christopher Berry Dee, another psychological profiler, said he doubted that the bomber could be female. He agreed with the police theory that the bomber was a handyman or DIY expert. The bomber would be single and motivated by spite.

**Personal**

AUTHORS: Manuscripts wanted by publisher for U.K./U.S.A. Publishing Call - Dorrance

IDEAS/INVENTIONS Wanted by large Int'l.Co. Call ISC FREE on

MARDI GRA
We are ready to help and give value.
Contact us on the verification number



**A home-made device, left, created by the Mardi Gra bomber, was put on show by police in December. It had been found in a Sainsbury's bag by a woman who had accidentally taken it home after a trip to a supermarket in West London. In 1996 detectives had tried to trap the bomber into a meeting by opening negotiations with him through newspaper advertisements. Last July, the bomber sent a bullet to Sainsbury's with a demand for cash.**

# Classical catches bigger share of radio audience

BY CAROL MIDGLEY, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

RADIO 3 and Classic FM were celebrating yesterday after it emerged that classical is music to the nation's ears. But Radio 4 was putting a brave face on another drop in listeners.

The BBC and commercial classical stations showed big audience increases in the new RAJAR figures for the last quarter of 1997. Radio 2, Radio 5 Live and Radio 1 also had bigger audiences against a year ago.

Radio 4, however, had a 200,000 drop in listeners compared with the last quarter of 1996 and now has a weekly audience of 8.1 million.

James Boyle, Controller of Radio 4, has dropped long-running shows and reshaped the schedule in an attempt to build up the audience and hang on to listeners who would normally turn off immediately after landmark programmes such as *Today* and *The Archers*.

A Radio 4 spokesman said that, although the figures showed a decline, "the picture remains stable for the network".

Classic FM claimed the most significant rise of all stations with a 10.9 per cent quarter on quarter increase. It attracted 483,000 new listeners, taking its weekly audience to 4.9 million, while Radio 3 gained 300,000 listeners compared with the same quarter last year, reaching a total of 2.6 million.

In the breakfast-show wars, Chris Evans gained attracted another 600,000 listeners to his Virgin Radio programme, taking his weekly audience to 2.5 million, while Radio 1's Zoe Ball and Kevin Greening gained 400,000, giving them a weekly audience of 5.5 million.

Terry Wogan's Radio 2 breakfast show also performed well, adding 100,000 listeners to his 4.8 million weekly audience.

Radio controllers were relieved to see their listening figures bounce back after a slump from July to September, which some blamed on the death of Diana, Princess of Wales.

The bitter breakfast-show rivalry has been a boon for the industry, according to Michelle Fox, a commercial radio spokeswoman. "The high profile that radio has been getting recently has been good for everyone."

THE SUNDAY TIMES

FREE BBC MAGAZINE




Don't miss our exclusive offer of a FREE BBC magazine. There's nine great titles, simply pick your favourite. See Style tomorrow.

Token collection required

THE SUNDAY TIMES *IS* THE SUNDAY PAPERS

MUST END SOON!

EVEREST JANUARY SALE

EXTENDED

30%* OFF

Call Free 0800 010123

Please Quote Ref: FEB876

* Off list price. Minimum order value £725. Offer open only at time of quotation. Not to be used in conjunction with any other offer. Different discounts apply to conservatories. Everest, Everest House, FREEPOST, Cuffley, Herts EN6 4YA.

Everest FIT THE BEST

هكذا من الأصل




More than 21 million viewers sung the praises of *Miss World* in November 1967, while *Olympic Ice Dancing* with Torville and Dean, left, attracted a cool 20.65 million in February 1994. *Mike Yarwood* made a good impression in December 1977, when he was watched by 21.4 million

# Great shows – or just too wet outside?

**Carol Midgley and Matthew Barber ask if the most popular programmes ever were all that good**

THE golden age of television is dead, judging by a definitive list of Britain's all-time top programmes. Despite the critical praise heaped on modern dramas, films and celebrated sitcoms, Nineties programmes managed to scrape only two entries into the top 10 and five into the top 30.

Far better at achieving the high ratings so coveted by today's pressured station controllers were shows from the 1970s and 1980s. While viewers might have expected to see the likes of *One Foot in the Grave*, *EastEnders* and *Heartbeat* high in the top 10, they will see the Seventies sitcom *To The Manor Born*, and the 1965 and 1967 Royal Variety Performances hosted by Ken Dodd.

Who would have imagined that the *Benny Hill Show* and *Sale of the Century* would feature in the top 30, but that *Last of the Summer Wine* and *Blind Date* would not make the top 100? That *Coronation Street* would manage 49 entries — many from long ago — but *EastEnders* none at all?

However the figures, from *Television*, the Journal of the Royal Television Society, are not as damning of modern television programmes as they might seem. Up until 1982, Britain had only three channels to choose from — BBC1, ITV and BBC2, which itself started only in 1964 — so viewers were shared around fewer programmes.

After Channel 4 arrived, the growing popularity of the remote control made channel-hopping easier, and the advent of the satellite and cable channels diluted the audience further. Today there are more home leisure activities — videos, computer games — to lure people away from programmes.

Steve Barnett, senior lecturer in communications at Westminster University, said: "This is an interesting reflection on the so-called golden age of television. Some people will look at this chart and say it just goes to prove television was great then and now it is rubbish. But if you watched them all now, you would probably think they were dire. Television used to be a much more unifying activity. You could be pretty sure in the Sixties and Seventies that if you watched a programme, most other people in the office or the pub would have seen it too, or they would want to see it next time because everyone else had.

"People also forget that we used to have only three channels. I don't think it has anything to do with quality at all."

Intriguingly many of the *Coronation Street* episodes that polled high were singularly uneventful. Bill Webster's wedding and Racquel having French lessons from Ken were hardly headline grabbers, but they happened to be screened in the coldest months of the year.

"You can bet there was a snowstorm or particularly bad spell of weather when some of the highest audiences were polled," Mr Barnett said. "It has less to do with the quality of the programmes and more to do with staying in in front of the fire. It shows quite how fickle we are as viewers."

Reaching the top 100 requires at least 19.6 million viewers, which was achieved by 43 programmes from the Nineties, but not *EastEnders*. A spokeswoman for the soap protested that it had ratings of more than 30 million for celebrated episodes such as the Christmas Day specials. But the figure includes the audience for the omnibus edition, which the RTS survey will not allow.

"Unlike the annual top 100, this chart is not selective," the journal says. "Each separate transmission is eligible, no matter how many episodes of the same series crop up." No account was taken of the "post-1980 nonsense", the 'audience' (usually soaps) fabricated by adding a same-week repeat to the original figure".

*Coronation Street* had no entries between 1968 and 1978, and has had none over 20 million since 1993. With the advent of more channels, it is unlikely ever to exceed its top audience of 21.4 million.

The report adds that the reason many feted shows such as *Minder*, *The Two Ronnies* and *The Darling Buds of May* do not feature is because their impact was cumulative, not instantaneous: "The fourth run of *Bread* surpassed them all, but has it lingered in the collective memories like the classic comedies?"

The top show, the Christmas 1996 episode of *Only Fools and Horses* which broke all records with 24.35 million, was genuinely polled on the day.

Missing from the top 100 was the Princess of Wales's funeral; it had 19 million viewers on the BBC and 11.5 million on ITV, and the chart does not count the combined audience. Similarly, the highest single audience for the Royal Wedding was less than 19 million. Some of the other entries will seem rather arbitrary to viewers. In at number 35, for instance, is a winter episode of *This is Your Life* from January 1978, which was devoted to the actor Arthur English. The BBC1 News and Weather bulletin from a Sunday in November 1984 is in at number 40, possibly because of interest in the miners' strike, which was escalating.

And then again, possibly it was because of the weather.

☐ *Figures provided by BARB*



Princess: interview in seventh place

## THE ALL-TIME TOP TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Only Fools and Horses<br>Delboy and Rodney finally become millionaires in their last Christmas special. | Dec 29, 1996 | 24.35m | BBC1 |
| 2 | To The Manor Born<br>Penelope Keith and Peter Bowles as the mismatched pair of toffs. | Nov 11, 1979 | 23.95m | BBC1 |
| 3 | Live and Let Die<br>Roger Moore and Jane Seymour chase a black master criminal and start dabbling in voodoo. | Jan 20, 1980 | 23.5m | ITV |
| 4 | [illegible]<br>[illegible] battle with a carbon-fibre shark. | Oct 8, 1981 | 23.25m | ITV |
| 5 | The Spy Who Loved Me<br>Moore and a glamorous Russian combine forces. | Mar 28, 1982 | 22.90m | ITV |
| 6 | [illegible]<br>Petula Clark, Kathy Kirby and The Seekers. | Nov 19, 1967 | 22.85m | ITV |
| 7 | Panorama<br>The Princess of Wales interviewed by Martin Bashir. | Nov 20, 1995 | 22.75m | BBC1 |
| 8 | [illegible]<br>[illegible] audience with Tom Jones, Cilla Black. | May 14, 1968 | 22.60m | ITV |
| 9 | Diamonds Are Forever<br>In Sean Connery's last Bond appearance he tries to thwart a diamond-smuggling ring. | Mar 15, 1981 | 22.15m | ITV |
| 10 | [illegible]<br>[illegible] gives to Mariella and puts New Yorker [illegible] | Dec 25, 1989 | 21.75m | BBC1 |
| 11 | Dallas<br>We find out that it was Kirsten, Sue-Ellen's sister, who shot JR. | Nov 22, 1980 | 21.60m | BBC1 |
| 12 | [illegible]<br>[illegible] his heart on his sleeve for Audrey. | Nov 4, 1980 | 21.55m | BBC1 |
| 13 | Mike Yarwood Christmas Show<br>Christmas special with Paul McCartney and Wings. | Dec 25, 1977 | 21.40m | BBC1 |
| 14 | [illegible]<br>[illegible] at the Rover's Return. | Jan 2, 1985 | 21.40m | ITV |
| 15 | Only Fools and Horses<br>The second stage on the boys' path to fortune. | Dec 27, 1996 | 21.30m | BBC1 |
| 16 | [illegible]<br>[illegible] before the show. | Nov 16, 1967 | 21.30m | BBC1 |
| 17 | Morecambe and Wise Show,<br>With Elton John, and Penelope Keith in a Cyrano spoof. | Dec 25, 1977 | 21.30m | BBC1 |
| 18 | [illegible]<br>[illegible] finds Cowell in the garage. | Dec 25, 1996 | 21.30m | BBC1 |
| 19 | Silver Jubilee Royal Variety<br>Bob Hope, Julie Andrews and Tommy Cooper head the bill. | Dec 4, 1977 | 21.20m | ITV |
| 20 | [illegible]<br>[illegible], Shirley MacLaine and Max Bygraves. | Nov 19, 1963 | 21.10m | ITV |
| 21 | Bread<br>The Boswells celebrate Aveline's marriage. | Dec 11, 1988 | 20.95m | BBC1 |
| 22 | The Benny Hill Show<br>The launch of Leprechaun TV with Patricia Hayes. | Mar 14, 1979 | 20.85m | ITV |
| 23 | You Only Live Twice<br>Sean Connery in Japan scuppers Donald Pleasence's attempts to rule the world. | Nov 20, 1977 | 20.80m | ITV |
| | Coronation Street<br>Elsie Tanner and Wally Randle get together. | Feb 18, 1981 | 20.80m | ITV |
| 25 | Just Good Friends<br>Vince and Penny's wedding day arrives. | Dec 25, 1986 | 20.75m | BBC1 |
| | Coronation Street<br>Martin Platt discovers fellow nurse Carmel has an obsessive personality disorder. | Mar 22, 1993 | 20.75m | ITV |
| 27 | Olympic Ice Dancing<br>Torville and Dean win bronze in their celebrated comeback at the Winter Olympics. | Feb 21, 1994 | 20.65m | BBC1 |
| 28 | Sale of The Century<br>Nicholas Parsons in the classic Saturday night quiz from Norwich. | Nov 19, 1977 | 20.60m | ITV |
| | Coronation Street<br>Bill Webster's wedding. | Jan 9, 1985 | 20.60m | ITV |
| | Coronation Street<br>Ken gives Racquel French lessons. | Jan 16, 1985 | 20.60m | ITV |
| 31 | Special Royal Variety Performance<br>Harry Secombe, Jimmy Cooper and Bob Monkhouse. | May 19, 1968 | 20.55m | ITV |
| | Royal Variety Performance<br>Rowan Atkinson, Paul Eddison, Ronnie Corbett and Terry Wogan star. | Nov 25, 1984 | 20.55m | ITV |
| 33 | Coronation Street<br>Tracy on the runaway and of some trouble. | Jan 6, 1993 | 20.50m | ITV |
| 34 | Miss World<br>Miss Austria, Eva Rueber-Staier, seizes the title. | Nov 27, 1969 | 20.45m | BBC1 |
| | This is Your Life<br>The subject is Arthur English. | Jan 18, 1978 | 20.45m | ITV |
| | Coronation Street<br>Hilda Ogden is found unconscious by Billy Walker. | Nov 14, 1984 | 20.45m | ITV |
| | Coronation Street<br>Mike puts in a fresh claim for Alma. | Nov 25, 1991 | 20.45m | ITV |
| | Coronation Street<br>Alma leaves Weatherfield and Mike. | Jan 22, 1992 | 20.45m | ITV |
| 39 | Coronation Street<br>The street rallies around Emily Bishop in her hour of need. | Jan 23, 1978 | 20.40m | ITV |
| | News and Weather<br>Neil Kinnock faces threat from Arthur Scargill over the miners' strike. | Nov 25, 1984 | 20.40m | BBC1 |
| | Coronation Street<br>Sally decides to divert her heels and make a stand. | Jan 14, 1993 | 20.40m | ITV |

FANTASTIC

A £5,000 loan for under £89 a month

Fantastic! That's the feeling you'll get when you spend a personal loan from Northern Rock.

What else makes it hard to beat? You can borrow from £1,000 to £10,000 quickly, without any fuss.

You don't need to provide any security.

And because the interest rate is guaranteed not to rise, you'll know what you decide to borrow is affordable.

Apply now for an instant decision. Call any time 8–9 weekdays, 9–5 Saturday or 10–4 Sunday (calls are charged at local rate).

Quote reference 663/10. 0345 421 421

NORTHERN ROCK
HARD TO BEAT

Northern Rock Personal Loans, Northern Rock plc, Selectapost 74, Claypit Lane, Leeds LS2 8LL.
www.nrock.co.uk

12.7% APR Subject to status. Subject to current lending criteria. Applicants must be between 21 and 80. Written quotations available on request. A loan of £5,000 over 84 months means 84 monthly payments of £88.31. Total amount payable £7,418.04.

# INXS rock icon committed suicide

**Roger Maynard** in Sydney and **Bill Frost** report on the anguished final hours of a singer caught in the wreckage of the Yates-Geldof marriage

ROCK STAR Michael Hutchence killed himself during a fit of depression over the custody battle between Paula Yates and Bob Geldof, an Australian coroner ruled yesterday.

The INXS lead singer, who was also suffering from the effects of alcohol and drugs, sounded "very upset" and "desperate" in conversations he had with friends in the hours immediately before his death in a five-star Sydney hotel last November, it was revealed. But Derrick Hand, the New South Wales coroner, said there was no evidence of Hutchence accidentally killing himself during a bizarre sex act that went wrong.

"It has been suggested that the death resulted from an act of auto-eroticism," the coroner said in a three-page statement. "However, there is no forensic or other evidence to substantiate this suggestion. I therefore discount that manner of death," he concluded.

Hutchence hanged himself in his room at the Double Bay Ritz Carlton Hotel in Sydney with his belt, after the buckle broke away. The star, unhinged by drink, drugs and deep depression, decided that death was preferable to fame, wealth and his troubled relationship with Ms Yates.

A toxic cocktail of cocaine, Prozac and enough alcohol to float a battleship threw the INXS frontman into the pit of despair. Like so many rock stars before him, he sought oblivion, leaving his last words on his manager's answerphone: "I've ****ing had enough."

The last hours of the INXS lead singer, described by the coroner, tell the anguished story of a man caught up in the wreckage of another couple's marriage, in which children and emotions were weapons of war. Statements from the last people to speak to Hutchence revealed how he slipped deeper and deeper into depression in the hotel as he waited for news about the custody battle over the future of Yates's children from her ten-year marriage to Mr Geldof.



> Hutchence was hectoring, abusive and threatening. A woman in the room next door was woken up by his shouting and screaming. He became more drunk and depressed

Hutchence originally set out in high spirits for a meal with his father, Kell, but admitted he was worried about the custody case over the children, three daughters Fifi Trixibelle, 14, Peaches, 8, and Pixie, 7. Shortly after his death, Mr Kell said that his son had been in a good mood during dinner and emphasised: "He was on great form; joking, mimicking friends, big smiles ... I don't believe my son killed himself."

Later, Hutchence met up with former girlfriend Kym Wilson and her fiancé, Andrew Rayment, at Hutchence's hotel. He told them he needed company while he waited for a call from London about the custody case. Mr Hand said: "The deceased appeared to want both of them to remain with him to offer support if the result of his custody [bid] was unfavourable. His mood was described as elevated but pensive."

Ms Yates was still with Mr Geldof when she first met Hutchence while interviewing him on Channel 4's *The Tube*, which had been dogged by sometimes unfavourable publicity. After their break-up, the couple initially arrived at a bizarre settlement which meant that Mr Geldof and his new girlfriend, Jeanne Marine, moved into Hutchence's London flat while Ms Yates and the children moved back into her former marital home with Hutchence.

A drugs raid on the couple's Chelsea home and the revelation that Ms Yates was the love child of the late game-show host, Hughie Green, added to the everyday pressure suffered by celebrities. In addition, the custody battle between Ms Yates and Mr Geldof was a burden Hutchence found hard to bear. All too often he found himself "at the back of the queue when he needed support", claimed one friend last night.

Hutchence and Ms Yates also had a daughter of their own, Heavenly Hiraani Tiger Lily, born in November 1996, and Hutchence had talked often about the delights of fatherhood.

By 5am, there had been no call from London and the coroner revealed that Ms Wilson said Hutchence told her and Mr Rayment to leave. About 40 minutes later, Ms Yates telephoned to tell the singer that the hearing had been adjourned until December 17 and she would not be bringing the children to Australia as planned.

Hutchence said that he would phone Mr Geldof, and "beg" him to let her come out with the children. Ms Yates told the coroner that her lover sounded "desperate".

Hutchence then put in two calls to Mr Geldof — the first only brief, when Mr Geldof asked Hutchence to call him back. But in the following call, Mr Geldof told the coroner that Hutchence was "hectoring and abusive and threatening". A woman in the room next to Hutchence was woken up by his "shouting and screaming".

The coroner added: "Geldof refers to the deceased as 'begging' to allow him to let the children come to Australia. He did not sound depressed." However, over the next few hours, Hutchence got more and more drunk and depressed. Medical statements revealed he had been taking Prozac since December 1995 and was given his last prescription on November 1.

Mark Collins, a London psychiatrist, told the coroner that he had seen Hutchence just weeks before — on October 17 — about minor depression. But there was no hint then that the singer was suicidal. Yet by the dawn on November 22, Hutchence was in a very different frame of mind. He could no longer cope with the custody battle.

He twice telephoned Michelle Bennett, a former girlfriend who lived in Sydney. Unable to reach her at the first attempt he left a slurred drunken message. During the second call at 9.54am, Hutchence managed to speak to Ms Bennett and sobbed down the phone to her. The coroner revealed: "He sounded very upset. She was concerned about his demeanour and for his welfare and told him she would come immediately. However, when she arrived at the hotel, she was not able to rouse him by knocking loudly on his door nor by ringing him. She wrote a note and left it at reception."

At about the same time, Martha Troup, Hutchence's personal manager, picked up a voice-mail message on her mobile telephone in New York. He said: "Martha, Michael here — I've ****ing had enough." Ms Troup telephoned his hotel immediately but received no reply from his room.

As one friend said last night: "There were so many who loved Michael but he did not love himself."

The coroner concluded that the deeply troubled singer had committed suicide. "I am satisfied the deceased was in a severe depressed state on the morning of his death due to a number of factors, including the relationship with Paula Yates and pressure of the on-going dispute with Sir Robert Geldof, combined with the effects of the substances he had ingested at that time. I am satisfied the deceased intended [to] and did take his own life."

Last night, Hutchence's family and friends were in shock after the verdict. Ms Yates's solicitor, Anthony Burton, said yesterday: "Paula Yates has absolutely no comment to make. Please leave her to grieve in peace and please allow Michael Hutchence dignity in death." Ms Yates later emerged from her home dressed in black and wearing sunglasses and a black shawl, holding Heavenly Hiraani Tiger Lily.

Earlier Mr Geldof arrived at her Chelsea home to take their children to school. Weary-looking, he was asked how he thought she was feeling. Mr Geldof replied: "We never talk about it."

Hutchence's fellow band members were said to be "too upset" to comment last night.



Geldof: Hutchence "begged" him to send the children

FIONA HANSON / PA



Yates and Hutchence leaving their London home in Chelsea with their baby daughter, Heavenly Hiraani Tiger Lily

## WORLD IN BRIEF

### Mandela defends job quota

**Johannesburg:** After four years of selling South Africa as the multicultural "Rainbow Nation", President Mandela yesterday defended legislation to make employers hire more blacks (Sam Kiley writes).

In an address to parliament, Mr Mandela attacked mainly white opposition parties who have criticised the Employment Equity Bill as a new racism. "Affirmative action is corrective action. There is no other way of moving away from racial discrimination to true equality."

### Russian fuel alert declared

**Moscow:** A state of emergency was declared yesterday in all major cities in Russia's Far East, gripped by an energy crisis, with fuel supplies close to exhausted. Tass reported. Reserves of fuel oil at thermal plants and boilers in Vladivostok, Nakhodka, Dalnegorsk and Arsenyev will last for only a few more days, the region's energy provider, Dalenergo, said. *(AP)*

### Airport named after Reagan

**Washington:** Washington National Airport was transformed into Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport just in time to mark the ailing ex-President's birthday. "As our nation celebrates President Reagan's 87th birthday, we wish him and his family well," President Clinton said in a statement. Mr Reagan is suffering from Alzheimer's disease. *(AFP)*

### Bardot plea to kill stray dogs

**Bucharest:** Brigitte Bardot, who campaigns for animal welfare, urged Romanians to kill stray puppies rather than "leave them alive to torment themselves in a miserable life". The French actress made her plea at an animal sterilisation conference in the capital where more than 100,000 dogs roam the streets and bite up to 50 people a day. *(AP)*





Thomas Cook Offers

UP TO 40% OFF PLUS FREE INSURANCE ON CRUISES WITH RoyalCaribbean INTERNATIONAL

| Itinerary | Ship | Departure Date | Was Per Person | Save up to | Now Per Person PLUS Free Insurance |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Maiden 7 day Voyage | Vision of the Seas | 2 May | £1129 | £411 | £718 |
| Western Caribbean | Majesty of the Seas | 7 Nov | £1599 | £668 | £931 |
| Eastern Caribbean | Grandeur of the Seas | 30 Oct | £1659 | £715 | £944 |
| Southbound Mediterranean | Vision of the Seas | 23 May, 20 June | £1499 | £404 | £1095 |
| Norwegian Fjords and North Cape | Splendour of the Seas | 18 June | £2629 | £1083 | £1546 |

HUNDREDS MORE IN STORE

Credit Card Booking Line 0990 777 666 OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK*

Hurry down to your local Thomas Cook shop or book by phone quoting CR107 or see Teletext page 268.

BOOK NOW FOR A GREAT DEAL

Thomas Cook

The nice surprise is the prices

All cruises subject to availability and supplements. All offers available on new bookings only for a limited period only and may be withdrawn/altered without notice. Bookings are subject to terms and conditions stated in the Royal Caribbean International 1998 2nd edition brochure. Prices quoted exclude all relevant savings, are per person, based on 2 adults sharing an H grade cabin for 7 nights and are correct at time of going to press. Up to 40% discount is made up of a Royal Caribbean International saving and a Thomas Cook discount. Offers apply to selected Summer '98 programme brochure departures 1 April - 30 November '98. Free insurance applies to selected voyages and is inclusive of UK, Channel Islands and Isle of Man residents only. Other UK residents may purchase insurance at an additional cost. Subject to availability at time of booking. Offer may be withdrawn at any time. Deposits and balances are payable as detailed in the holiday brochure. Deposits are non-refundable unless cancellation is made by Thomas Cook or the holiday is being paid no later than 10 weeks before departure. Offers not available in Ireland. Ask our staff for full details of offers. Switch and all major credit cards accepted. A handling charge of 1% applies to payments by credit/charge card up to a maximum of £10 per transaction. *Open Mon-Fri 9am-8.30pm Sat 9am-5pm Sun 10am-4pm. To ensure quality customer service, calls to Thomas Cook Direct are recorded. The Thomas Cook Group Ltd. ABTA 33666 acting as agents for Royal Caribbean International ARTA 3098

20p THE TIMES

WORLD CUP QUIZ KICKS OFF EVERY MONDAY.

JVC

£25,000 worth of prizes to be won.

http://www.the-times.co.uk

CHANGING TIMES

VALERIE GROVE MEETS: RICHARD BRANSON

# In the court of the Virgin king

PETER NICHOLLS



Action man: whether fighting his corner in the libel courts or taking to the skies in balloons, Richard Branson has secured himself a reputation as one of life's winners

Life is altogether full up, as 16-year-old Richard Branson wrote to his grandmother when he was at Stowe School and getting up at 4am to publish his magazine, *Student*, his first entrepreneurial venture. Life has remained altogether full up ever since.

If he is not launching something or being miraculously rescued from his balloon he is spraying champagne about, with a pish grin, having scuppered some monopolistic opponent. Yesterday morning at 8.30 he was "dealing with the inevitable backlash" of his famous victory this week, which saw off not only Guy Snowden of GTech but also Peter Davis, the lottery regulator.

I wish I had taken out a bet on the jury's verdict, having watched a few of the key performances in court.

"Did you see me when I got completely tongue-tied?" he asked. "My daughter said afterwards: 'You get your errs from your dad and your blanks from your mum.' As a family we often just can't get our words out."

Branson is not a natural performer, nor a play-goer, but he found the judicial process theatrically fascinating. Beside him in court sat his father, a retired barrister who is himself the son of a High Court judge, Sir George Branson. Mr Branson senior had to slap his son's wrist when Richard blurted "I agree" out loud, and kept nudging him to say "M'Lord". It was also unusual to see his wife Joan at his side: "In 22 years together we've managed to keep Joan out of the public eye, but Mr Carman [his counsel, the astute George Carman, QC] said it would be nice if all the family came along."

Branson operates in cream-stuccoed and pillared splendour in Holland Park: one ambassadorial house for domestic use, one his office next door. In blue jeans and blue shirt he sat on one of the plump peach sofas and pondered on what would become of the lottery, now that we know more about how Camelot won the bid.

He says Camelot, with £1 billion at stake, is doing some heavy lobbying, to persuade Chris Smith, that it is the most efficient operator, and that GTech are the only people who can do the technical side. "I worry that the Labour Government, having promised to turn this into a people's lottery, could be persuaded by the enormous number of people with vested interest in Camelot — just look at the list of companies involved in Camelot with MPs on their payroll — that nothing must be done to damage this wonderful company."

They say how horrendously difficult it is to run.

"Look: I've set up and run maybe two hundred businesses. People outside may think it's an awfully difficult thing to do in a competitive world. In fact it's a very easy thing. The only difficult thing is being more successful than your competitors. So setting up and running a national lottery is one of the easiest companies one can possibly imagine. You find a company that is good with computer terminals, and there are plenty, other than GTech. You do a deal with the BBC and get all your advertising for nothing. You find imaginative people to market it.

"And, since you don't have any competition, you get your money printing machine, and the money pours in. It's as easy as that."

He points out that far more people would play the lottery (as market research confirms) if Camelot had not been discredited by fatcattery, and if all the money went to good causes.

"They say a lottery run entirely for good causes will not be as well run as one whose profits go to shareholders. Now I'm a great believer in the profit motive. We do need excellent lottery operators, extremely well paid, I don't begrudge that, but the incentive should be, can we get more people to play the lottery? What we don't need is shareholders, making about £600 million over the length of the licence, or operators creaming off another £600 million."

He now maintains "I do not wish to run the national lottery." He says it doesn't need a Branson; it needs someone like John Fitzpatrick, who set up the Irish lottery. It could even be Tim Holley.

With hand on heart, would he be happy to see someone else running it on his lines? "Very happy. My basic skills in life are setting companies up and then standing back and letting them get on with it.

"But if Chris Smith came and said 'We haven't found anyone else who can do it on your basis, can you help us for two months?' I would do that and then step aside. Otherwise it would be too easy for Camelot to say the reason for my campaign was that I wanted to run it myself. Branson, at 47, remains the eternal adventurer, an oddball in business pages full of pink-faced men in well-cut suits. A billionaire is not supposed to look the way he looks, or dress as he does. That is why Guy Snowden, and Lord King before him, were mistaken about the boy they thought they were dealing with. Branson's success with his airline (awards jostle one another on his mantlepiece), record shops, pension plans, cola and condoms, still leaves time for his "foolish escapades" with the balloon.



Yesterday morning he was ringing his weatherman about whether his balloon might get up and away next week. I heard him murmur "Northern China ... Northern Mongolia" and ask "Is that Pacific stream breaking up yet?" But conditions were not yet right.

Just before his balloon blew away into Algeria in December, he sat in his Marrakesh hotel room, making his will. Does he make a new will every time? "Yes, every year. I always change little things here and there. Prior to climbing into the balloon to cross the Pacific," he recalls, "I went over to the media caravan and found Joan Thirkettle recording my obituary for ITN. She said, 'Would you like to see it?' I thought I might as well watch it: very few people get to see their own obits. It brought a tear to my eye," he said, with a roar of laughter.

Did he laugh when the Breitling balloon attempt failed the other day? "We all like each other very much, they're delightful people, and we're honest enough to hope the others will get 99 per cent of the way — and that we'll make the last 1 per cent." He says ballooning has brought him ten years of fun. "It makes life that much richer."

At that moment his doctor rang, with the daily bulletin on his friend and balloon engineer Alex Ritchie, who saved Branson's life in the Atlas Mountains during his previous round-the-world attempt, and then fell to earth when his parachute failed to open (just as the Branson case opened). Alas, Ritchie remains unconscious in a London hospital.

Branson was one of two entrepreneurs to emerge from Stowe in the early 1960s: Tony Elliott of *Time Out* preceded him. Now every public school asks advice about how to encourage budding Bransons. But he says you can't teach people to be entrepreneurs, except to learn from your mistakes.

Was his train company a mistake? He read me a letter he had just drafted to his Virgin West Coast staff, praising their success in improving on BR's record, adding that until they have new track and tilting trains it will be hard to achieve a 100 per cent on-time record and, in a PS, apologising for the demoralising press coverage — "In part I believe it's because of the high expectations of any Virgin company ..."

He claims to relax at a weekend cottage in Oxfordshire, playing tennis and chess. But what appears to drive him, since he does not need more than one lunch or dinner every day, nor to own more than one Caribbean isle, is a fundamental restlessness: "I try to spend as little time in one place as possible."

He never sits at a desk. The day before, he had been to Virgin's new cosmetics shop, to the Virgin Brides wedding-and-honeymoon emporium, to the new Virgin clothing company, and to see about the launch of his Virgin bank. The adverts, he said, might use some of Guy Snowden's fatal words as a slogan: "Can we do something for you personally?" or maybe "Everybody needs something, Richard."

Some people are just winners: few can win and still retain popular appeal. The people would have Branson for president, and Branson for lottery operator. Now it's Branson for Mayor of London: would he like his red logo over City Hall? "I'd like to do everything," he replied. He'd have to think about whether he could fit it in. But, as Mayor, he'd have "50 per cent of the streets closed to traffic and greened over."

Don't bet against it.

Man in the hot seat, page 30

# Strung-out orchestra plays to its strengths

CONCERT

**Hallé Orchestra**

Manchester

The standing ovation on Thursday night was not so much a demonstration of admiration for Kent Nagano and the Hallé's performance of Mahler's First Symphony as a display of public support for a great institution fighting for survival. Nothing — except, of course, a large injection of money — could have been more effective in boosting the morale of an orchestra which must feel terribly let down by the failure of the individuals and bodies whose function it is to sustain it.

The defiantly positive attitude of the Bridgewater Hall audience should also have encouraged the Hallé Concerts Society's newly-formed review group, which has less than two months to devise a convincing financial, managerial and artistic strategy. It also illuminated the dilemma that is facing the group. Large-scale romantic works such as Mahler's First inspire public enthusiasm. But it is those same works which, since they so often require the engagement of extra players, cost a lot of money.

And what about the first half of this concert? Should they continue to go along with Nagano, a music director who wants to perform two recently resurrected teenage works by Britten, when one — preceded by something not only more popular but also better — would have been enough? And does an early Britten concerto really need soloists of the stature (and expense) of Gidon Kremer and Yuri Bashmet?

It is true that Nagano is recording Britten's *Two Portraits* and Double Concerto with the same orchestra and soloists. So the calculations, which must balance the potential benefits of commercial recording against the actual cost of preparing for it in a concert, become even more complicated. As it happened, although Bashmet played the solo viola part in the second of the *Two Portraits* with much tenderness in phrasing and beauty in sound, his partnership with Gidon Kremer in the Double Concerto proved not very interesting.

The performance of Mahler's First Symphony was not, in its early stages, very interesting either (nor did it include the *Blumine* movement promised in the programme). Painstakingly well prepared, it demonstrated the fine finish Nagano has applied to the Hallé sound. It was also an example of his tendency to hold back too much in anticipation of the big event.

The first movement was so restrained that it scarcely seemed to move forward at all. But the climax of the finale, as the brass players (quite authentically) rose to their feet to intone their chorale, was exactly what the occasion required.

GERALD LARNER


EVENTS

ON behalf of Piaggio, I trust you have had a magical time at our 1998 Conference. Piaggio and our dealers make a winning team. I wish you all a successful 1998 and thanks to Bob Brennan for choosing the nine of clubs, regards Howard.

OPERA & BALLET

COLISEUM 0171 632 8300 (24hr) ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA Tom't 6.30; Tue 7.30 THE ELIXIR OF LOVE

THE ROYAL OPERA Box Office 0171 304 4000 at the Shaftesbury Theatre Box Office 0171 379 5399. Tickets also available from Ticketmaster on 0171 957 4020 Tom't, Tue, Thur 7.30 IL BARBIERE DI SIVIGLIA "It left me breathless with laughter" Times and at the Barbican Hall Box Office 0171 638 8891 Wed 7.30. ALFREDO KRAUS in concert

DANCE

Sadler's Wells at the Peacock Theatre (0171) 314 8600 From the creator of Cumbre Flamenca CAMPANAS FLAMENCAS Until Sunday 8 March

THEATRES

ADELPHI cc 24hrs (£1 bkg fee) 344 0055 "A shower to die for" Telegraph "Dripping with style" Express 7 OLIVIER AWARD NOMINATIONS INCLUDING OUTSTANDING MUSICAL PRODUCTION CHICAGO THE MUSICAL RUTHIE HENSHALL UTE LEMPER HENRY GOODMAN

THEATRES

ALBERY 369 1730/344 4444 "You'll be dancing on air" D.Mail STEPPING OUT THE NEW MOSICAL "Tapping a rich vein of joy" Times "IT'S THE FULL MONTY WITH TAPPERS-GLITTERING" D.Mir "JUST WONDERFUL" Int.H Trib Eves 8pm Mats Thur 3pm Sat 4pm

ALDWYCH 0171 416 6003 cc 344 4444 "Dame Judi is triumphant in Hare's masterpiece" D.Mail JUDI DENCH SAMANTHA BOND RONALD PICKUP JOYCE REDMAN The National Theatre Production of AMY'S VIEW a new play by DAVID HARE Directed by RICHARD EYRE Eves 7.30, Sat Mat 2.30

ALDWYCH 0171 416 6000 cc 0171 957 4001/420 0000 (bkg fee) Grps 0171 416 6075/413 3321 WHISTLE DOWN THE WIND Andrew Lloyd Webber and Jim Steinman's new musical Opens July 1

APOLLO 24hr cc 0171 494 5070 cc 0171 344 4444 (bkg fee) Grps 0171 494 5454 BEN ELTON'S POPCORN "Electrifying...bloodcurdling comedy...I recommend it with relish" John Peter, Sun Times "The West End has found its resident Playwright" IOS Mon-Sat 8.00pm Mats Wed 3.00pm Sat 4.00pm

APOLLO VICTORIA cc 0171 416 6055 cc 24hrs 0171 344 4444/0171 420 0000 Grps 416 6075/413 3321 Andrew Lloyd Webber's STARLIGHT EXPRESS THE FASTEST SHOW ON EARTH While knuckle runs 19.45 daily Tue & Sat 3pm Tickets from £12.50

A VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS "The nearest thing to Xmas at Dingley Dell" Dly Expr. "Best Panto in London" BBC2. Players Theatre WC2 "BABES IN THE WOOD" MATS: Sunday 3pm, Eves 8pm.

CAMBRIDGE 494 5080/416 6080 344 4444/420 0000 (+ bkg fee) Groups 494 5454 416 6075/413 3321/436 5588 GREASE NOW IN ITS 5TH FANTASTIC YEAR! IAN KELSEY as Danny "A Monster Hit" D.Mirror Mon-Sat 7.30pm, Wed & Sat mat 3pm BOOKING TO THE MILLENNIUM

COMEDY THEATRE 369 1731 cc 0171 344 4444 "EDWARD FOX's Macmillan a tour de force" E.Std. "CLARE HIGGINS excellent" F.T. In Hugh Whitemore's A LETTER OF RESIGNATION "One of the most literate and powerful plays in the West End." Time Out Mon-Sat Evgs 7.45 Mats Wed 3.00, Sats 4.00

CRITERION 369 1737/344 4444. 3RD HILARIOUS YEAR THE REDUCED SHAKESPEARE COMPANY THE COMPLETE WORKS OF WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE (abridged) All 37 Plays in 97 Minutes "Hilarious" Times "Go Now!" Sunday Times Mats Thur at 3, sat at 5 Sun at 4, Eves at 8pm THE COMPLETE HISTORY OF AMERICA (abridged) Tuesday at 8pm

DOMINION 0171 656 1885/0990 203020/0990 204020/0171 420 0000 (bkg fee) Grps 0171 416 6099/0171 312 1997/0800 614803 DISNEY'S BEAUTY AND THE BEAST THE NEW HIT MUSICAL "AN ENCHANTING EVENING. GENUINELY GLORIOUS" D.Tel "A FEAST OF GOOD FUN" D.Mail New Group Rates-Now Booking Mon-Sat 7.30, Wed & Sat Mats 2.30

DONMAR WAREHOUSE 369 1732 THE FRONT PAGE

DRURY LANE THEATRE ROYAL SS cc (Bkg fee) 24hr 7 days 0171 494 5000/344 4444/420 0000 Grps 494 5454/413 3311/312 8000 MISS SAIGON "THE CLASSIC LOVE STORY OF OUR TIME" NOW IN ITS 9TH BREATHTAKING YEAR! Eves 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat 3pm Good seats avail for Wed Mat & some perfs - apply B.O.

FORTUNE BO & CC 0171 836 2238/312 8033/494 5988 NOW IN ITS 9th HIT YEAR ROBERT DEMEGER DAVID PULLAN Susan Hill's THE WOMAN IN BLACK Adapted by Stephan Mallatratt "The most thrilling and chilling play for years" D.Mail Mon-Sat 8 Mats Tue 3 & Sat 4 Running time 2hrs

GARRICK 0171 494 5085/312 1990/ 494 5388 (no bkg fee) Grps 0171 494 5454 Winner of 19 Major Awards The Royal National Theatre Production PIP MILLER ALISON FISKE JOHN BARDON J.B Priestley's AN INSPECTOR CALLS "Thrilling...Must be seen" D.Mail "Two hours enthralling, visually stunning drama" D.Tel Mon-Fri 7.45, Sat 5.00 & 8.15 Mats Wed 2.30

GIELGUD 0171 494 5085 cc 0171 420 0000 (bkg fee) Grps 494 5454 JANE ASHER STEVEN PACEY SERENA EVANS THINGS WE DO FOR LOVE A new comedy written & directed by ALAN AYCKBOURN Red Price Preve from 26 Feb Opens 3 March 7pm Mon-Sat 7.45pm Mats Thu & Sat 3pm

GIELGUD 494 5085 (No bkg fee) Evgs 7.45 Mats Thur 3/Sat 4 THE PETER HALL COMPANY Christopher Cazenove Kate O'Mara Simon Ward Richard Todd Madeleine Potter Barbara Murray OSCAR WILDE'S CLASSIC COMEDY AN IDEAL HUSBAND "GREAT AND GLORIOUS" S.Tms

Hampstead 0171 722 9301

HAYMARKET B.O/cc 930 8800/344 4444 (bkg fee) MAGGIE SMITH EILEEN ATKINS JOHN STANDING in EDWARDS ALBEE'S A DELICATE BALANCE with SIAN THOMAS JAMES LAURENSON ANNETTE CROSBIE directed by ANTHONY PAGE Tue-Sat 8pm, Wed & Sat Mats 3pm LAST 9 WEEKS

HAYMARKET BO/cc 0171 930 8800 cc 344 4444 (bkg fee) EDNA THE SPECTACLE An Icon Returns from 8 April

HER MAJESTY'S 24hr 494 5400 (bkg fee) CC 344 4444/420 0000 (fee) Grps 494 5454/413 3311/436 5588 ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S AWARD WINNING MUSICAL THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA Directed by HAROLD PRINCE NOW BKG TO MAY 98 Eves 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat 3.00. Apply to Box Office daily for returns

LONDON PALLADIUM BO/CC 0171 494 5020/344 4444 (£1 tkt serv chg) 420 0000 Grps 0171 494 5454/413 3321 JIM DALE RETURNS AS FAGIN OLIVER! 4th IRREPRESSIBLE YEAR "LIONEL BART'S MASTERPIECE YOU CAN'T ASK FOR MORE" S.Times Eves 7.30 Mats Wed & Sat 2.30 Some good seats avail now for weekday perfs FINAL PERF 21 FEB '98

LONDON PALLADIUM 0171 494 5030/344 4444 (bkg fee) Grps 0171 494 5454/413 3321 SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER Prevs 21 Apr, Opens 5 May

LYCEUM cc 0171 656 1806 0990 500 800/344 4444/420 0000(bkg fee) Grps 416 6076 TIM RICE & ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR "Sends shivers racing down the

LYRIC 0171 494 5045 (24hr & cc Bkg fee)/344 4444 (Bkg fee) - Groups 0171 494 5454 Royal Shakespeare Company ANTONY SHER in CYRANO DE BERGERAC "The Cyrano of the decade' FT Eves at 7.30pm Mats Wed & Sat at 2.00pm LAST 2 WEEKS

LYRIC 494 5045 (24hr + Bkg fee) 420 0000 (24hr + Bkg fee) 24 Feb - 14 March ISSEY OGATA "A walk on the cutting edge of comedy" Los Angeles Times Mon-Fri 8pm, Sat 5pm & 8.30pm

NATIONAL THEATRE BO 0171 928 2252: Grps 0171 620 0741; 24hr cc bkg fee 0171 420 0000. OLIVIER Tom't, Mon 7.15 (PREVIEWS) FLIGHT by Mikhail Bulgakov In a new adaptation by Ron Hutchinson LYTTELTON Today 2.15 & 7.30 THE INVENTION OF LOVE a new play by Tom Stoppard COTTESLOE Today 2.30 & 7.30, Mon 7.30 THE DAY I STOOD STILL a new play by Kevin Elyot

NEW LONDON Drury Lane WC2 BO 0171 405 0072 CC 0171 404 4079 24hr 0171 344 4444/420 0000 Grps 0171 413 3311/436 5588 THE ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER/ T.S. ELIOT INTERNATIONAL AWARD-WINNING MUSICAL CATS Eves 7.45 Mats Tue & Sat 3.00 Bars open at 6.45 LIMITED NO. OF SEATS AVAIL DAILY FROM BOX OFFICE.

PALACE THEATRE 0171-434 0909 cc 24hrs (bkg fee) 0171-344 4444 (bkg fee) Grps 0171 413 3311 THE WORLD'S MOST POPULAR MUSICAL LES MISERABLES NOW IN ITS 13TH RECORD-BREAKING YEAR Eves 7.30 Mats Thu & Sat 2.30 Latecomers not admitted until the interval

PHOENIX BO/CC 0171 369 1733 /344 4444/420 0000 (fee) BEST MUSICAL Olivier/Drama Awards Plays & Players/Ivor Novello Awards WILLY RUSSELL'S BLOOD BROTHERS ...Brings the audience to its feet, and roaring its approval" D Mail Eves 7.45 Mats Thurs 3pm Sat 4pm

PRINCE EDWARD 0171 447 5400 First Call 420 0100 cc 344 4444 Groups 420 0200 LAST MONTH TO SEE BOUBIL & SCHONBERG'S "MUSICAL MASTERPIECE" Int Hes Trib MARTIN GUERRE BEST NEW MUSICAL LAURENCE OLIVIER AWARDS MUST CLOSE 28 FEB Mon-Sat 7.45 Mats Thur & Sat 3.00

PRINCE OF WALES 0171 839 5987 First Call 420 0000 cc 344 4444 GRAMMY AWARD WINNING MUSICAL "Hot from Broadway. Enough energy to electrify a city." D Mail SMOKEY JOE'S CAFÉ THE SONGS OF LEIBER & STOLLER Mon-Thu 8pm, Fri 5.45 & 8.30, Sat 3pm & 8pm NOW BOOKING TO SEPT 1998

Queens Theatre 0171 494 5040 (24hrs)/420 0000/344 4444 SHOPPING AND F***ING By Mark Ravenhill 'An historic event' Guardian Eves 8pm, Mats Thur 3pm, Sat 5pm LAST 6 WEEKS

ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY STRATFORD 01789 295623/0541 541051 Today 1.30 & 7.30: RST:TWELFTH NIGHT SWAN: ROMEO AND JULIET TOP:ROBERTO ZUCCO LONDON 0171 638 8891 Today 2.00 & 7.15: BARBICAN Wed and THU

SAVOY BO/cc 0171 836 8888 cc 420 0000 IAN RICHARDSON "TOUR DE FARCE" D.Tel GRAHAM CROWDEN "EXPLOSIVELY FUNNY" NotW THE MAGISTRATE by Arthur Wing Pinero Mon-Sat 7.30 Mats Wed & Sat 3.00 LIMITED SEASON

ST MARTIN'S 0171 836 1443 Eves 8, Tue 2.45, Sat 5 & 8 AGATHA CHRISTIE'S THE MOUSETRAP 46th YEAR

STRAND THEATRE Box Off & cc (no fee) 0171 930 8800 cc (bkg fee) 0171 344 4444/420 0000 Groups 0171 413 3321/0171 436 5588 "BUDDY" The Buddy Holly Story "BRILLIANT" Sun "BUDDY" "WONDERFUL STUFF" Sun Tel Tues-Thurs 8.0 Fri 5.30 & 8.30 Sats 5.00 & 8.30 SUNDAYS 4.00pm kids ½ Price ALL SEATS 1/2 PRICE FRI 5.30 PERF 9th KNOCKOUT YEAR! Now booking 'till the year 2000

VAUDEVILLE LIVE! 0171 836 9987 cc 0171 344 4444 (24hrs) THE RIGHT SIZE EXTENDED 1 WEEK TO 21 FEB "The best show in town" D.Mail Eves 7.30 Sat Mat 4.00 FROM 23 FEB FOR 20 PERFS MY LIFE WITH KENNETH WILLIAMS Performed by David Benson BEST AVAILABLE SEATS FROM £12.99

WYNDHAMS 369 1736/344 4444 BEST COMEDY Eve Standard Awards BEST COMEDY Laurence Olivier Awards "ART" A new play by Yasmina Reza Trans.by Christopher Hampton

RAYMOND GUBBAY presents Valentine's Day Love Classics

Celebrate the most romantic day of the year with this superb programme of great classics.

TCHAIKOVSKY Sleeping Beauty Waltz, DEBUSSY Clair de Lune MASCAGNI Intermezzo from Cavalleria Rusticana OFFENBACH Orpheus in the Underworld Overture KHACHATURIAN Adagio from Spartacus, GRIEG Piano Concerto DELIUS The walk to Paradise Garden, TCHAIKOVSKY Swan Lake Suite London Concert Orchestra Anthony Inglis conductor Paul Lewis piano

A VALENTINE'S DAY ROSE FOR EVERY LADY IN THE AUDIENCE

BARBICAN HALL SATURDAY 14 FEBRUARY at 7.30pm BOX OFFICE: 0171 638 8891 Tickets: £9.50 to £26.50

GREENWICH THEATRE



"Parting is such sweet sorrow"

ROMEO & JULIET

FEBRUARY 5 - MARCH 28

BOX OFFICE: 0181 858 7755

To advertise in The Times theatre listings please call our entertainments team on 0171 680 6222

# A press freedom their lordships should protect

**Peter Stothard**, Editor of The Times, replies to the two peers who want to restrict the right of newspapers to compete freely in the marketplace

*The Times* owes much to the extended family of Viscount Astor who, on Monday, will seek to amend the way in which the Government's competition Bill controls the newspaper industry. Between the 1920s and the 1960s the Astors invested millions of pounds in securing our future against the fiercest commercial competition that had at that time been experienced by the broadsheet press. Although their efforts ended in failure, without them we might not be here to enjoy our present success.

Lord McNally too, the public relations executive whose name stands alongside the Astor amendment, is not known for ignorance of the press. His old boss, Lord Callaghan, once described him as a man who could be kept content, even on a mission to wartime North Vietnam, "provided he was served with a constant diet of fresh newspapers".

Both men are businessmen who understand markets; both are politicians who recognise the dangers to democracy when fewer and fewer people, particularly young people, read newsapers which inform them about their world. Both men have specific knowledge of *The Times* and its place in the history of Britain. Yet both men want a change in government policy which would curb our present policy of reaching new readers with reduced prices which they want to pay.

Viscount Astor should be particularly well aware of the way in which price-cutting can introduce new readers to a newspaper. In 1930 it was a price cut in support of *The Daily Telegraph* which drove the Astor *Times* into the subordinate market position which we have held ever since. *The Daily Telegraph* of those years was already a better newspaper than *The Times* of that era: but nothing was more successful in letting readers see that for themselves than the cut in price. There is nothing new in our actions of the past four years: on this occasion it is *The Times* which aims to show that it is the better paper.

When Lord McNally was in Downing Street between 1976 and 1979, the trade unions ran the newspaper industry and the industry was running into the ground. That did not stop Lord Thomson of Fleet from pouring even more millions into trying to modernise editorial content and production methods of *The Times*. When Rupert Murdoch bought *The Times* in 1980, he too spent large sums, wholly successfully, in breaking trade union power on behalf of all newspaper producers, but with lesser and only intermittent success in our marketplace.

The cost of successful price-cutting in the past four years, during which the circulation and advertising revenue of *The Times* have both more than doubled, is as nothing compared with the huge cost of past setbacks this century. Was there any protest at the Astor, Thomson and early Murdoch investments in editorial, promotional advertising and production? No, because they were not so successful, because they did not give our competitors cause to fear for their profits. Why are there objections now? Because *The Times* is enjoying a commercial prosperity not known here since the last century; because other newspaper groups, with the help of spokesmen who ought to know better, are protesting at pressure from *The Times* that is exactly the same as the pressure which *The Times* experienced from *The Daily Telegraph* seventy years ago.

The big winners in the past four years have been newspaper readers. As we show on the front page today, thousands of new readers are continuing to come to *The Times*: but not only our own readers have benefited. Between 1985 and 1993 newspaper prices had risen much faster than prices generally, in some cases twice as much. This was a policy that favoured *The Daily Telegraph*, the newspaper left as the market leader when the last big competitive battle occurred. It did not benefit *The Times*. Nor did it benefit those with a care for the health of newspapers overall: broadsheet sales, which have since risen by 14 per cent, were falling before the price cuts began. The Office of Fair Trading has twice investigated our pricing policy and declared that no action under competition law was required.

Newspaper readers are not, of course, primarily motivated by price. *The Times* suffered in the 1930s because it was out of touch with the contours of public opinion. *The Daily Telegraph* today, which is too slavish to the Tory party to have any influence upon it and too hostile to the Government to attract any notice there either, is under similar pressure. The *Telegraph* group, while cutting its prices by subscription and regional offers to an unprecedented degree, also joins the lobbies to government that would restrict price cutting. It would prefer newspaper readers to pay more. It would prefer policies which encouraged sampling and choice to be restricted by law.

The most vociferous protester in recent years — so vociferous in recent days as to resemble a lost dog in the prairie — is *The Independent*, a newspaper which was founded in 1986 as a direct result of the opportunities opened up by the move of *The Times* and the other News International papers to a site outside the grip of the Fleet Street print unions. We never expected any gratitude for that. Nor did we receive it. At the height of *The Independent*'s success, when it was fuelled by a national weariness with the excesses of Margaret Thatcher and Ronald Reagan, its founders spoke of buying *The Times* and incorporating our 200-year-old title into their own.

Despite its innocent pleadings, *The Independent* was no cuddly dog in those days: it ruthlessly launched a Sunday title against the then fledgeling *Sunday Correspondent*. But by killing that rival and by overstretching its own stock of talent, it mortally wounded itself. Since then it has lost its founders, its original and defining enemies, its independence and a massive tranche of its readers. For that *The Independent* must find a cause other than itself. So it relies upon the price cuts at *The Times*.

These price cuts, it says, are financed from satellite TV and Hollywood in defiance of international conventions, national interest and natural justice. Curiously, these canards are occasionally uttered, even by people who know, as *The Independent* knows absolutely, that *The Times* and *The Sunday Times*, taken together for commercial purposes in the manner followed by newspapers all over the world, form a highly profitable business. The annual £70 million loss alleged for *The Times* by one former columnist for *The Independent* this week is a wish desperately seeking a fact. We are not quite financially secure from our own resources yet: but we have never been closer to that aim since the Boer War. We look to their lordships to recognise where we have come from, where we would like to be and the motives of those who would prevent us.



Viscount Astor: family concern



Lord McNally: "press diet"

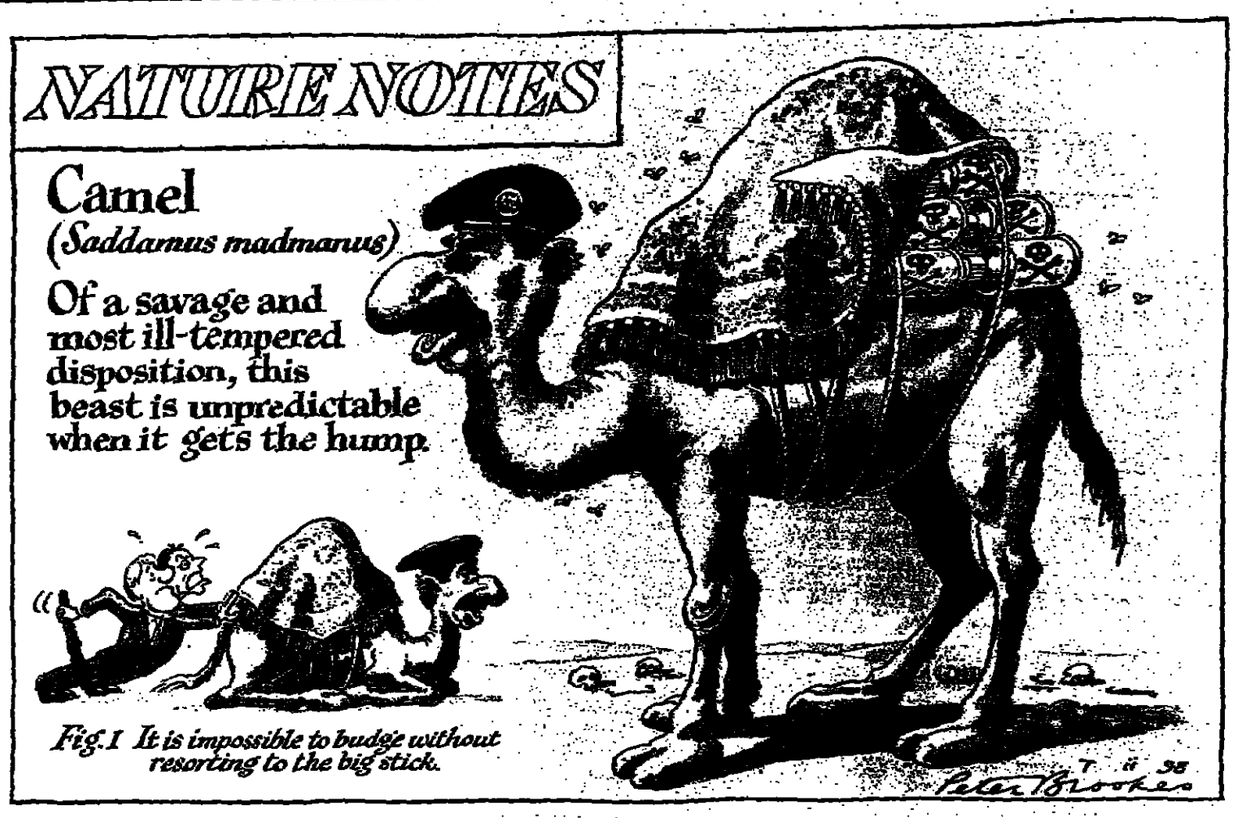



*Fig.1 It is impossible to budge without resorting to the big stick.*

# Saddam's best friends

## By bombing Iraq, Blair and Clinton risk playing into the dictator's hands

*Simon Jenkins*

The chandeliers glittered and the glasses clinked. The White House on Thursday night was en fête and the media en frisson. The old alliance was in business and, for good measure, the President had staged for his guests a modest war. As the Great Timur invited his visitors to massacre a few Mongols after dinner, so a modern American President suggests they find a small state to bomb. It does wonders for the political digestion.

I am much attached to Anglo-American relations and much revolted by President Saddam Hussein. But hours of briefing and piles of paper have left me baffled as to the point of the apparently imminent bombing of Iraq by American and British warplanes. The old maxim appears true. There is nothing in politics so prone to posturing and stupidity as foreign affairs. The British Parliament will shortly be asked to approve a state of war between Britain and Iraq, so that British airmen can launch strikes on Iraqi territory. I hope someone in this inconspicuous Parliament asks why.

Let us go back to the beginning. We are told that the resumed air war in the Gulf will be of a different order from the punishment bombings of 1993 and 1996. Anglo-American airstrikes against Iraq will arise not from any Iraqi aggression but from American exasperation at United Nations staff being impeded in and round Baghdad. The inspectors were charged to locate and destroy chemical and biological weapons which Iraq is known to possess. Saddam has used such weapons in the past against his own dissidents. He is a ruthless and sadistic dictator who may attack others states at any moment. Disarming him of these peculiarly odious weapons is thus seen as a top priority.

So far so noble, in theory. The trouble is that the Americans and the British have been unable to persuade the Middle East states that Saddam does pose an immediate threat to their security. A handful are ready to support the West, but half-heartedly. Many Arabs are puzzled by America's zest to enforce a UN mandate, which Iraq is partly respecting, when it ignores flagrant abuses of such mandates by Israel. Saddam may not have learnt much, but he did learn in 1991 that the world would not tolerate the outright conquest of a neighbouring state. He has not threatened any states lately. He is misbehaving towards the UN, but what is new there? Plenty of countries are potential regional destabilisers. We do not bomb them all.

Suppose Saddam is an imminent threat. What is achieved by bombing? We are told that the purpose of military action against Saddam is, variously, to kill him, to topple him, to disarm him without toppling him, if not to disarm him then to raise the cost of his misbehaviour. Cynics even suggest an opposite rationale: to idolise him by bombing would avoid his being toppled by a usurper and further destabilisation of the region.

Despite decades of trying, the US Air Force has yet to assassinate a dictator with a bomb. Its special forces and bomb manufacturers make many boasts. An American bomb did kill Colonel Gaddafi's daughter, an act of "state terrorism" no different from that practised by that dictator's agents. But most bombs miss their targets. Even smart bombs miss targets. Nobody appears to know where Saddam is at any one moment. Bombs do not wait on street corners waiting for the right victim to turn up.

So the enthusiasts change course. They suggest that the bombs will do what the inspectors could not, which is to disarm Saddam of his chemical and biological stockpiles. How? We know from the 1995 defectors that these stockpiles are sufficiently mobile to make the inspection regime a farce. Equipment can be moved or concealed. If the Iraqis have prevented the inspectors keeping track of the stuff, how does the bomb-aimer know better? And what grim tolerance lies behind the bombing? Saddam is known to hide much weaponry in heavily populated areas. How many civilians is America really prepared to kill to get at one drum of anthrax?

On Monday Tam Dalyell, MP, asked Robin Cook what happens to a chemical stockpile when hit by a 5,000lb Tomahawk. The Foreign Secretary's inability to answer spoke volumes for Britain's intellectual unreadiness for this war. Mr Cook said that he was sure the bombers knew what they were about. It was as glaring a case of "dumbing-down" as politics can offer. The Americans claim weapons that can blanket the effect of explosively disseminated poisons. Air force claims about the sophistication of bombing are notoriously exaggerated. Are British bombers party to this blatantly lethal escapade?

As each question gets a blanker answer, the argument is altered. The intention is not so much to wipe out the weapons as to "send a message to Saddam", to change his mind about the inspectors by armed force. In the words of the American Secretary of State, Madeleine Albright, echoed falsetto by Mr Cook, "We are deadly serious." We want Saddam "taught a lesson". The bombs will bring home to him the cost of refusing to let the UN search his palaces. Even if American airmen no longer talk of "bombing the enemy into the Stone Age", as they did of North Vietnam, they still think that way.

This is what the bombers claimed to be able to do to Saddam in 1990, when they assured the White House that a land invasion would not be necessary since airstrikes would win the war. The ghost of Bomber Command still stalks every air force in the world. According to *The Times* this week, the scenario is to "isolate Baghdad", cut communications, enrage the population and, with luck, dissident regions will rise and topple the dictator. Bombs did not do this in 1990. They never have done this and never will. They merely kill, maim or impoverish the unfortunates who lie in their often uncertain path, and reinforce the determination and status of their rulers.

Most serious strategists accept the truth of all this. But serious strategists are not heard when the gods of war are riding the political wind. The fact is that America and Britain are half-hearted about the fate of Saddam and are hiding half-heartedness behind big talk. If spies know where to target the aerial bombs, why not destroy them with greater accuracy by special forces on the ground? If we could spike the guns of Navarone, why not the Scuds of Saddam? In truth there is only one way to end the obscenity of Saddam. If he indeed poses an imminent regional threat, the West must persuade his neighbours of the fact and join in another invasion of Iraqi territory. War must be waged on Saddam, to defeat him, to track him down and kill him.

Such a war, without a UN mandate and against the advice and support of virtually the entire world, is unthinkable. The Middle East would be engulfed in a conflict of ghastly proportions. Israel would be far more at risk than at present. A successor regime in Baghdad might be no better than Saddam's. The idea is a lunacy. Yet anything short of such total war does not add up. It is worse than doing nothing.

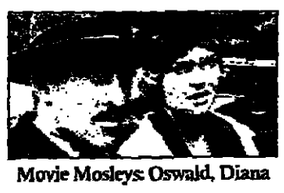
With luck, Mr Blair may be let off the hook by Saddam himself. The dictator may concede an inspection or two, to give the alliance an illusion of success. He will continue to play cat and mouse as before. He may welcome a bomb or two, to remind his people and the Arab world what a giant he is to tweak Uncle Sam's nose. Either way he does not lose. The West may wreck his economy and sanctions may impoverish his people. The West may enrich him and his family and a surrounding mafia, as sanctions always do. But it will not topple him or remove him as a possible threat.

The likes of Saddam are never toppled by sanctions, ostracism and bombing. These cowardly and ineffective weapons of modern diplomacy have propped up more thugs and impoverished more nations than ever did open war. Dictatorships are weakened by contact, infiltration, diplomacy and trade. They are undermined by prosperity, migration and regional diversity. They are overthrown by domestic politics, not foreign bombs.

I would have thought a majority of the Labour Cabinet would agree with this. I cannot believe Gordon Brown, John Prescott, David Blunkett, Clare Short, Harriet Harman and Chris Smith have joined the Bomber Harris appreciation society. I cannot believe they accept, as does Mr Cook, the pat hyperboles of the Pentagon nor the vapidities of Washington's megaphone diplomats. Yet here they are, defending the fragmentation and cluster bombing of Iraqi cities, for no reason that can stand the light of argument.

# Final cut

FROM her salon in Paris comes a stinging attack from Diana Mitford on the makers of a forthcoming film about her late husband, Sir Oswald Mosley. The critical study of the Fascist leader has reignited a family feud as it is based on Nicholas Mosley's two-volume biography of his father, Diana's stepson. Now 87, Diana, who was Oswald's second wife, refused to co-operate, even though her character looms large in *Mosley*. Speaking from her Paris residence, Temple of Glory, the infirm Diana dismissed the series as "very silly". Nicholas tried to persuade Diana to read the script before but she refused. "I don't think about Nicholas quite honestly. I won't be watching it."



Movie Mosleys: Oswald, Diana

Oswald married Diana in Hitler's presence at Goebbels' Berlin pad in 1936. The marriage was kept secret for two years and the relationship between Diana and Nicholas, whose mother Cynthia Curzon died in 1932, has had its turbulent spells. "Diana didn't want anything to do with it," says Nicholas. "She thinks I am not sympathetic enough to Oswald's Fascist policies. But then she was on chatty terms with Hitler."



● *IT WAS a strangulated cry that alerted passengers to the plight of Sir Richard Marsh. The former chairman of British Rail found himself locked in the loo as he hurtled through the Cotswolds on the 17:12 from London to Hereford. After the guard failed to rescue him, it was announced that the train would stop for 20 minutes to rescue the turbulent commuter. Sympathy turned to tutting as passengers saw the door being hacked down, complete with an "out of order" sign. Says a fellow traveller: "He was rather contrite."*

## Tory story

IT PROMISES to be the longest obituary in history. Michael Portillo is to make a TV study of the history of the Tory Party. The former Defence Secretary, keen to improve his image, is to present a documentary series to be broadcast on Channel 4 this year on the party that was his political life until its strange death last May. Mr Portillo's performance will be compared minutely with Alan Clark's splendid BBC four-parter on the same subject. I trust Michael will be nice about young William.

● *A PASSION for the turf is bringing together sparing Irishmen in the "peace process". During a tense moment, the SDLP MP Seamus Mallon slipped a note to David Trimble. "The parties should get down to work and get an agreement." I wouldn't bet on it.*

THE TIMES DIARY

JASPER GERARD

*horse Mallon had tipped at Lingfield. "It came in at 3 to 1. At least we left with a few more shillings than we came in with," said the top tipster Mallon. "I have one very substantial tip," confided Mallon*



● *THAT wholly organic PR lady Lynne Franks had an absolutely fabulous time in Morocco. "I connected with some fundamentalist Islamic academics. We hugged each other with tears in our eyes," she tells* Passion *magazine.*

## Royal blades

COSTS are blamed for the Queen's decision to opt for an American rather than a British helicopter, but I hear a different story. The American machine is superior in one respect: the down-draught on the

## Family affair

FAMILY values will tonight be on full display at Chevening, the grace and favour retreat of Robin Cook, when his son Chris throws a party to celebrate his 25th birthday, which in new Labour style is black tie. The birthday boy is a solicitor in Edinburgh who enjoys a good time. As for parental accompaniment, the Foreign Secretary will be present to subdue riotous partying in his Kentish mansion. Sadly Margaret, his aggrieved wife, tells me she will be staying in Scotland. The whereabouts of Gaynor Regan, the other woman, are not known.



VALENTINE'S Day holds poor promise for Gaynor Regan. That old swinger Robin Cook will be out of town. "He'll be alone in Montserrat," says an aide. "Mrs Regan has no plans to join him." Martin Bell's mystery belle will be equally disappointed. It was reported elsewhere that her identity would be revealed at a Valentine's ball in his Tatton constituency; in fact he is taking his comely daughter Melissa, who recently became engaged. The romantic traditions of St Valentine will be upheld by Gordon Brown, expected to take out his friend Sarah Macaulay, perhaps in front of Grub St snappers; and by William Hague, who plans a night-time surprise for Ffion in his Richmond constituency. On the fluffier side of life, sociable sorts seem rather keen to flee the country. Ivana Trump is off to St Moritz, while Tania Bryer is heading off with her arm-rest, Tim Moufarrig, to Ashford Castle in Ireland. Others have more domestic ambitions. Kathy Lette, the novelist, says: "I will do the most decadent thing a mother of two can do — have breakfast in bed." One man entirely untouched

# MISPLACED LOYALTY

## Blair may regret his endorsement of Clinton

If President Clinton thought that a powerful performance from his wife, a populist State of the Union address and an acute national reluctance to entertain a constitutional crisis would cement his position then he has been disabused. As his press conference with Tony Blair yesterday demonstrated, scandal will reassert itself at little notice and with unpredictable impact. The emerging new evidence from Betty Currie, the President's personal secretary, and the testimony from Monica Lewinsky, wherever it comes, will keep this affair alive. The President's assertion that complicated legal arrangements prevented him from offering his version of events is extremely contentious. As Gerald Ford rightly said immediately after assuming office, truth is the glue that holds government together. Mr Clinton's credibility looks increasingly ungummed.

All this makes Mr Blair's effusive endorsement of the President on Thursday night, repeated yesterday, appear even more risky. His tone was so striking that it raised rather than removed interest in the Lewinsky affair. Mr Blair, in fairness, was in an unenviable position. With a crisis and probable military campaign in Iraq imminent he could hardly afford to imply that the President enjoyed anything less than his utmost confidence. On this particular occasion, however, the Prime Minister's preference for an informal approach to such matters may not have served him well. His remarks about Mr Clinton's qualities of "integrity" will be remembered well after the rest of this trip has slipped from memory.

Even in more comfortable circumstances, Mr Blair should have kept some distance. The links between this country and the United States are enormously important. The Prime Minister's evident willingness to develop them can only be commended. The "special relationship", though, is based on the shared historical links between our two nations augmented by ties of blood, culture, experience, language and public institutions. At this time, like so many others, it is best illustrated by intimate co-operation in military and intelligence matters. It does not rest on the personal chemistry of politicians. Mr Blair is hardly the first Prime Minister to fall into this trap. He will not be the last.

Mr Blair will not, paradoxically, be most embarrassed if fresh revelations remove the President from office quickly: this is, in any case, a slim prospect. Such a process would install Albert Gore as President who has often praised Mr Clinton in even more effusive terms. The Prime Minister could assert that the showdown in Iraq made his solidarity essential. He could say that events had moved in a direction that he could not have anticipated. Washington would swiftly erase a disgraced President from its collective memory. Mr Blair would benefit from that brutal transformation.

The real danger is much more subtle. Mr Clinton may survive despite a mounting scandal. His lawyers might well be able to obstruct Kenneth Starr's investigation. New accusations could be dealt with through the familiar Clinton tactics of stonewall and smear. The President would become, as one American commentator has put it, "the Oval Office OJ (Simpson)" — technically at liberty in the community but entirely discredited in the eyes of most people. The whole Washington establishment would distance themselves from him. The American electorate would punish the Democratic Party in the congressional elections this November and once again in the presidential contest two years later. Mr Blair would then come to regret his fighting words for his "friend".

The problem for the Prime Minister is that such an erosion is more probable than a swift resolution of Mr Clinton's problems. Indeed, a slow, sorry, and somewhat sordid conclusion to his presidency may well be the most plausible outcome of them all. If so, Mr Blair may find that a future Republican Administration is distinctly unimpressed. As an exasperated Winston Churchill once noted, the trouble with a shared tongue is that past words cannot be lost in translation.

# PASSING ON THE BATON

## Classical musicians should listen to the public

A decade ago the Prime Minister and the President of the United States might have dined in the White House to the strains of a string quartet. This week they sipped their digestifs to Elton John's *Song for Guy* and Stevie Wonder's *My Cherie Amour*. The choice may, however, say as much about wider perceptions of modern classical music as it does about what sits in the CD stacks of Downing Street and Pennsylvania Avenue.

Sir Simon Rattle first raised the question of how committed the Government was to supporting classical music in a letter to this newspaper last month. Since then he has been approached to join the Government's task force on music teaching. His fears for the future, however, go beyond the classroom. Sir Simon cited as symbolic the plan to have Nigel Kennedy play with Eric Clapton at the forthcoming G8 conference in Birmingham rather than have him share a platform with a symphony orchestra.

Sir Simon is a gifted evangelist for classical music. But the orchestral tradition has not been so well-served by some prominent figures. If classical music, in the broadest sense, is to enjoy the patronage and support it wants then some reflection on the wrong turnings taken in the past may help in the campaign to shift attitudes.

It is always easier to blame an Establishment than to single out culpable individuals. But for years many of the most important figures in classical music have been evangelists of a forbiding modernism and deaf to tradition's claims. Composers such as Boulez and Stockhausen exercised a malign influence over conservatoires and academies. Radio Three was a safe haven for the atonal and experimental and hostile territory for new composers working within the classical tradition. A pointed bow was stuck in the ribs of the modernists this week by the cellist Julian Lloyd-Webber, who took the atonal establishment to task for driving an audience which wanted harmony and melody into the arms of pop musicians.

The Lloyd-Webber strictures appear to chime with a changing mood on the airwaves. Recently, driven by the commercial pressure from Classic FM, Radio Three has striven to make itself more accessible. Figures released yesterday which show both stations attracting more listeners are proof that there is a growing audience for classical music which observes traditional rules. Particularly noticeable is the increase in the audience for the modern yet melodic mix played by Sean Rafferty in the early evening.

There is still, in the academies, a modernist claque but sales have shown that new classical music does not have to be modernist to simultaneously charm and offer new challenges. The appetite for new compositions which respect traditional rules has been proven by the success of work by Arvo Pärt and John Tavener.

Young audiences will always want to discover new work for themselves, and the popularity of pop owes something to the desire to have a music which belongs to one's own generation. But there is no reason why classical music, if harmonious and melodious, cannot build new audiences for new work. If conductors and conservatoires were to devote more time to nurturing new traditionalists they might find it easier to enlist the people on their side in the battle to persuade Mr Blair that Be Here Now is not the ne plus ultra of contemporary music.

# JUST SAY YES

## Ministers should remember that this is a free country



It is easy to understand the frustrations of being a minister in this Government. There is not much they can actively do, since doing generally costs money, and money is in short supply. There is an alternative, however, which costs no money, and that is to ban other people from doing things. Banning has become the favourite pursuit of new Labour: from handguns to T-bone steaks, cigarette advertisements to moderate drinking and driving, this is becoming one of the bossiest administrations in living memory.

The latest potential candidate for the chop is unpasteurised or "raw" milk. Usually sold in green-top bottles, this concoction — together with its by-products of cream, butter and cheese — is a gourmet's delight. The hygiene standards required of producers are much higher than those for pasteurised milk. All are regulated and regularly inspected by the Ministry of Agriculture. The milk carries a health warning — "This milk has not been heat-treated and may therefore contain organisms harmful to health" — and cannot be sold in shops, restaurants, or schools. Consumers who drink raw milk must want to do so badly enough to track it down from farms and take the associated risks.

So how great are those risks? In the league table of food poisoning, milk (of all kinds) comes seventh, well below poultry, eggs, burgers and even tap water. Over the period 1992-1996, there were 218 notified cases of poisoning caused by raw milk and 265 by the pasteurised version. These figures include any form of stomach upset. Yet Jeff Rooker, the Food Minister, says that "there is no reason why consumers should be exposed to this risk". On the contrary, there is every reason why they should. If they like the taste, and choose to take the risk, they should be allowed to exercise that choice.

People take risks at almost every waking moment. For reasons of convenience, they choose to drive their cars, even though trains are safer. They pour boiling water from kettles, fry chips and chop vegetables. Life is full of dangers. In a free country, government should limit only those risks that individuals either cannot assess or cannot control. That, in a nutshell, is the essence of responsible democracy.

In a culture dominated by arts graduates, it is easy to see why politicians are often in thrall to their scientific advisers. But Mr Rooker has a BSc in engineering and his boss, Jack Cunningham, has a PhD in chemistry. There is no excuse for the Ministry of Agriculture to take anything other than a robust line on unpasteurised milk. And if these men are not prepared to do so, they should be overruled by Tony Blair. He must surely be aware of a greater risk: that bossy governments soon become hated governments.

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

## World of music as a child's birthright

*From Dr Fanny Waterman, Chairman, Leeds International Pianoforte Competition*

Sir, When one of the great conductors of our age, Sir Simon Rattle, gives us his considered musical opinion (letter, January 22; article, Arts, February 2), Tony Blair and his ministers should sit up, listen and with humility take notice. The main plank of the platform on which they relied to get elected was "education, education, education". This does not merely mean the three Rs or "back to basics". Having taught the piano for more than half a century, I am convinced that learning an instrument instils a discipline that remains for life.

Apart from students who have won major international, national and local competitions, some of whom have also gone on to make fine musical careers, there are those whom I value just as greatly. They have said they owe a great debt to their musical training and the very important qualities that such a training has given them — perseverance, accuracy, integrity, courage and judgment.

Discipline comes from striving for perfection, which is the basis of practising: the accuracy in reading and respect for the composer's score, and integrity in faithfully carrying out those intructions. The search for more world-class soloists must start at primary level to produce superlative excellence. Equally, the basic training at primary level has led many students who have passed through my hands to achieve fine careers in many professions.

This opening into a world of emotional insights will last people all their lives and enrich their existence. Those who have learnt an instrument and to understand music, at whatever level, are assured of a life of satisfaction. They will become the audiences of the future.

The Government claims that it is opening more doors for our future citizens. In reality, it seems intent on denying our children their birthright.

Yours faithfully,
FANNY WATERMAN,
*Chairman,*
*Leeds International*
*Pianoforte Competition,*
*Woodgarth,*
*Oakwood Grove, Leeds LS8 2PA.*
February 2.

*From Dr Ian Horsbrugh, Principal of the Guildhall School of Music and Drama*

Sir, In 1979 Sir Simon Rattle, then a prodigiously talented young conductor, was working with an orchestra, the members of which were marginally younger than he. Stravinsky's *Firebird* glowed and thrilled the audience.

The London Schools Symphony Orchestra has managed to survive. The organisation that made it all happen — the Inner London Education Authority — alas is no more.

It provided for countless young people the opportunity to experience, at any level and on practically any instrument, the wonder of making music, without charge. It gave them the chance to play in school and during holidays in orchestras, bands, rock groups, jazz ensembles and steel bands.

It was my job then to organise these holiday courses, and I remember always the joy of the young musicians and their often incredulous parents.

We cannot return to the past, but let us reflect on what we have lost in the drive to become financially self-sufficient — and educationally myopic.

Yours sincerely,
IAN HORSBRUGH,
Principal,
Guildhall School of
Music and Drama,
Barbican, EC2Y 8DT.
February 3.

## Chavasse, VC, and his heroic family

*From Dr Elizabeth Wilson*

Sir, Captain Noel Chavasse, VC and Bar, MC, whose moving story Damian Whitworth recalls today, was one of seven children of Francis Chavasse, Bishop of Liverpool. Two of his brothers, one a chaplain (his twin, Christopher) and the other also a doctor (Bernard), also won the MC. His youngest brother, Aidan, was killed in Sanctuary Wood in 1917. One of his sisters, May, nursed with the Liverpool Merchants' Mobile Hospital throughout the war in France. Few families, even then, could match such a record of service to their country.

The good bishop never faltered in his belief that "the final victory of God was absolutely certain" (sermon on April 14, 1915). No doubt such conviction was bred into his children. It is with admiration and despair that one looks back on these beliefs that fuelled the slaughter and yet inspired so much heroism.

Yours faithfully,
ELIZABETH WILSON,
11 Westbourne Gardens,
Glasgow G12 9XD.
February 4.

*From Mr D. J. Penn*

Sir, Your article on the military records of Captain Noel Chavasse, VC, was guaranteed to catch the interest of your readers, who may also like to view Captain Chavasse's medals.

By kind permission of St Peter's College, Oxford, these are displayed in the Victoria Cross/George Cross exhibition at the Imperial War Museum, as is the Military Cross group of Noel's twin brother, Christopher, first master of the college and later Bishop of Rochester.

Their brother, Captain Bernard Chavasse, RAMC, had most courageously made five attempts to recover another brother, Lieutenant Aidan Chavasse, who was seriously wounded between the lines at Ypres while serving with the 17th Liverpool Regiment.

Quite apart from such remarkable heroism the Chavasse family has left a lasting legacy in the shape of St Peter's College, the inspiration of Noel's father, Francis James Chavasse, Bishop of Liverpool from 1900 to 1923, who was also responsible for building his diocese's Anglican cathedral.

Yours faithfully,
D. J. PENN
(Keeper, Department of
Exhibits and Firearms),
Imperial War Museum,
Lambeth Road, SE1 6HZ.
February 4.

*From Mr R. D. Bridgewater*

Sir, Mrs Ann Clayton, Chavasse's biographer, expresses surprise that he remained a captain after two years in that rank.

A possible explanation is that given by Captain H. F. Humphreys, of the RAMC, in writing to his parents on July 11, 1916:

*I forget if I told you that some months ago Moore [his commanding officer] sent in my name for promotion to Major. The ADMS [Assistant Director of Medical Services] wrote very nicely about it but it can't be done under the present regs. Promotion can only be made where there is a vacancy on the establishment & they have got a rotten rule out now that with Corps troops eg RE, RAMC etc acting rank must be kept one step below the establishment ie you can only be a major if you are acting as a Colonel & so on. I don't mind much except for the pay the increase in which from Capt to Major is considerable. That is of course why the rule was made.*

Most RAMC captains remained in that rank to the end of the war, despite the fact that many were decorated for gallantry. Humphreys had been promoted captain in October 1915 and ended his service in that rank, having been awarded the MC and having been mentioned in dispatches three times.

The explanation for Chavasse remaining a captain for two years is therefore more likely to lie in the Army's desire to save money generally than in a conspiracy against him as an individual.

Yours faithfully,
DOUGLAS BRIDGEWATER,
Uplands House, Camp Lane,
Henley-in-Arden,
Warwickshire B94 5QQ.
February 4.

*From Mr Brendan Anderson*

Sir, The reason why Captain Chavasse was not promoted may perhaps have been because he

won the disapproval of a court martial for sympathizing with a man who had shot himself in the hand at Loos. Chavasse had trimmed away the incriminating scorch marks in an attempt, frustrated as it turned out, to conceal the incident.

This quotation is from *The War in the Trenches* by Alan Lloyd, published as part of "The British At War" series in 1976 by Book Club Associates by arrangement with Granada Publishing Ltd, and edited by Ludovic Kennedy.

Yours faithfully,
BRENDAN ANDERSON,
18 Wattleton Road,
Beaconsfield,
Buckinghamshire HP9 1TS.
February 4.

## Kipling's son

*From Mrs Adrian Crellin*

Sir, The acute grief of Rudyard Kipling at the loss of his son (report, February 3), was confirmed by Sir Charles Wheeler, PPRA, in his autobiography, published in 1968.

In 1919 Kipling had arrived unannounced at Wheeler's studio and asked him to make a bronze memorial tablet to his son, bearing the words *qui ante diem perilt*. The tablet is in Burwash Church, in East Sussex. Kipling and his wife later commissioned a portrait bust of their son, to be modelled from family photographs. When they failed to respond to letters inviting them to view the model, Wheeler guessed the reason:

In a third letter I suggested that perhaps they found it hard to face up to the sculptured image and if that were so I would destroy the work and call the whole thing off. This proved to be the case. Poor Kipling was utterly undone by his son's loss and never got over it.

Yours faithfully,
SARAH CRELLIN,
Thornbrook House, 39 Main Street,
Thorner, Leeds LS14 3DX.
February 3.

*From Mr Frank O'Reilly*

Sir, In his foreword to the 1997 edition of Kipling's *The Irish Guards in the Great War*, George Webb gives an account of the enlistment and disappearance of John Kipling.

As a 17-year-old schoolboy John was rejected for a commission because of his poor eyesight and his age. When he proposed to enlist in the ranks, his father prevailed upon his old friend Field Marshal Lord Roberts, the Colonel-in-Chief of the Irish Guards, to gain him a commission in the regiment.

After being posted missing in action at Loos, 77 years were to elapse before the fate of John was finally known. As you report in later editions today, it was not until June 1992 that a researcher at the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, sifting through old data on the reburial of unidentified British casualties at Loos, shrewdly cross-checked a discrepant map reference. As a result, an anonymous body was proved beyond doubt to be that of John Kipling.

Yours faithfully,
FRANK O'REILLY,
66 Score Lane, Liverpool L16 5EB.
February 3.

## Testing evidence of the paranormal

*From Mr Montague Keen*

Sir, Whether Helen Duncan, whose posthumous rehabilitation is currently sought, was as fraudulent as your correspondents presume (letters, February 4) is open to serious doubt, having regard to the formidable array of witnesses who testified at her trial to the genuineness of her phenomena.

This is to say nothing of the evidence of one of my colleagues, who saw her presumed butter-muslin materialisations disappear vertically into a parquet floor when he and several sceptical friends sat with Mrs Duncan in 1942.

But we have rather better and more objective evidence for the General Secretary of the National Secular Society, whose letter suggests that this is all nonsense and superstition: the many photographs by Fleet Street photographers taken during sittings given by Mrs Duncan's short-lived contemporary, Jack Webber. These show ectoplasm, or so-called butter muslin, issuing in great quantities from Webber's mouth, nose and ears during sittings arranged for the press, at which the material behaved in a fashion contrary to the laws of physics, while Webber himself has his jacket removed, turned inside out, and replaced while slumped in a chair, tied hand and foot.

As for raising spirits from the dead — the pejorative way of describing mediumistic communications purporting to come from discarnate intelligences — critics are confronted by an inescapable dilemma which they resolutely decline to face: the huge number of recorded communications which give correct and precise information that could not have been known to the medium come indeed from spirit sources or else they are acquired paranormally by the medium's subliminal mind.

Your correspondents are entitled to choose, a task made more difficult when they have taken the rare precaution of looking at the evidence. What they are not entitled to do is to ignore that evidence: it is abundant, formidable and challenging.

Yours sincerely,
MONTAGUE KEEN
(Secretary, Survival Committee,
Society for Psychical Research),
School Barn Farm, Pentlow,
Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 7JN.
February 4.

## Absent from Davos

*From Sir Timothy Garden, Director of Chatham House*

Sir, Anatole Kaletsky (article, February 3) captured the extraordinary mix of conference and circus that is the World Economic Forum at Davos. Once a year, Nobel Prize winners, business leaders, prime ministers, presidents, academics, artists and the media meet to discuss every aspect of international affairs.

He was right to draw attention to the lack of any member of the British Government at any time during the week. It was an extraordinary loss of opportunity to promote the United Kingdom to the biggest assembly of international business chiefs anywhere.

He went on to claim that, in any event, this international community had little interest in the British view. This was not my experience. The British economy, culture and foreign policy were matters that many wanted to explore. The regret was that, unlike the other major countries, there was nobody from our Government to enter the debate.

Yours faithfully,
TIMOTHY GARDEN,
Director,
Royal Institute of
International Affairs,
Chatham House,
10 St James's Square, SW1Y 4LE.
*director@riia.org*
February 4.

## Police performance

*From the Chief Constable of Surrey*

Sir, Your account today (earlier editions) of the Audit Commission report on police performance makes a direct comparison between the crime detection rates of Kent Constabulary and those of Surrey Police, much to the detriment of the latter.

If the debate was focused on levels of crime, rather than detection, the situation would be entirely different. While I congratulate Kent Constabulary on their detection rates and note that their rates of crime are falling, I must point out that Surrey remains the safest county in England in terms of crime rates, with a greater fall in crime over the last five years than any force in the South East. The likelihood of being a victim of crime in Surrey is almost half that in Kent.

I am determined that Surrey Police will increase the likelihood of criminals being caught when they commit crime, but I am more interested in preventing that crime happening in the first place and I want to be measured on how successful I am in achieving just that.

I have the feeling that most people would rather not be burgled than be burgled and know that the burglar had been caught.

Yours sincerely,
IAN BLAIR,
*Chief Constable of Surrey,*
Police Headquarters,
Mount Browne, Sandy Lane,
Guildford, Surrey GU3 1HG.
January 29.

## Face to face

*From Mr John Murray*

Sir, Mr David Cole (letter, February 5) should brace himself for further unpleasant transatlantic expressions.

When I raised an objection by e-mail to a US-based colleague's proposal, I received the message: "No prob. Re-up at next skull-session" [translation: No problem. Bring it up next time we meet].

Yours faithfully,
JOHN MURRAY,
19 Lamont Road, SW10 0HR.
February 5.

*From Mr D. Goldie-Scot*

Sir, Mr David Cole can expect worse than "face time".

I've been told that a problem needs to be discussed in "mealspace" [translation: an encounter in the flesh, as opposed to cyberspace].

Occasionally I am asked for a "3D" [the same thing].

Yours faithfully,
DUNCAN GOLDIE-SCOT,
172 Tachbrook Street,
*London SW1V 2NE.*
*dgs@live.co.uk*
February 5.

**Letters that are intended for publication should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 0171-782 5046. e-mail to: *letters@the-times.co.uk***

## Brownfield sites

*From Mr Richard Cass*

Sir, As someone who has been working for over twenty-five years developing "brownfield" land in most regions of the UK, I welcome the current "greenfield versus brownfield" debate (letters, January 29; February 3).

My firm is presently involved with a number of large derelict sites, all of which are either within or closely related to existing urban areas, and all well suited to be developed for housing. In all cases the local authorities' policies for new housing land rely heavily and perhaps exclusively on the use of greenfield sites.

Their policies for the brownfield sites are either for employment use, for which there is no demand, or open space, for which there is no money. This brings about the very thing John Prescott is trying to avoid, namely new housing in greenfield, peripheral locations whilst large areas of urban land lie derelict.

A radical change to the way local authorities draw up and operate their planning policies will be essential if brownfield sites are to take over from greenfield ones in meeting the demand for new housing, and our towns and cities are to become, to use the current vogue word, "sustainable".

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD CASS,
Cass Associates,
Albion House,
30 James Street, Liverpool L2 7PS.
*cass_associates@compuserve.com*
February 6.

## Railway sleepers

*From Mr Michael Waring*

Sir, I was interested to read your report (February 5) on the bleep alarm invented by Clive Wallington to alert sleeping passengers to the approach of their station.

May I suggest he adopts the use of a vibrating pager as used by some restaurants to alert diners to the availability of their table. This can be worn on the waistband and, being noiseless, causes no nuisance to others.

Yours faithfully,
M. J. WARING,
15 Park Crescent,
Southport, Merseyside PR9 9NW.
February 5.

## Collision course

*From Rear-Admiral J. F. Perowne*

Sir, Having just watched the film *Titanic*, I was amused to note that when the officer of the watch ordered "full starboard rudder" on sighting the iceberg right ahead, the helmsman put the wheel smartly to port. Perhaps this confusion was because all the officers were wearing their shoulder boards back to front, which is known in the Royal Navy as "going astern".

Yours faithfully,
JAMES PEROWNE,
*HMS Warrior,*
Northwood, Middlesex HA6 3HP.
February 3.

# COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
February 6: His Excellency Mr Nguyen Manh Cam (Deputy Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam) was received by The Duke of York, on behalf of The Queen, this morning.

ST JAMES'S PALACE
February 6: The Prince of Wales today departed Sri Lanka for Nepal and was received on arrival in Kathmandu this afternoon by Crown Prince Dipendra Bir Bikram Shah Dev.

His Royal Highness this evening attended a Dinner given by The Crown Prince at the Soaltee Hotel, Kathmandu.

## St Matthew's Church, Cambridge

St Matthew's Church, Cambridge, are holding a reunion weekend on July 25/26, 1998. Former members please telephone 01223 363545 or 316916 for details, by April 30.

## Service dinner

**HAC**
The Lord Mayor and the Sheriffs were the guests of the Honourable Artillery Company Mess Club at a dinner held last night at Armoury House. Major D. Ide-Smith, president of the club, presided.

The Lord Mayor, Mr D.N. Vermont, Captain the Rev D.P.E. Reindorp and Lord Egremont also spoke.

## Dinners

**New Zealand Society**
The High Commissioner of New Zealand attended the New Zealand Society's annual Waitangi Day dinner held last night at the Savoy Hotel. Lord Archer of Weston-super-Mare was the guest speaker and Mrs Gillian Goudge was in the chair.

**Farriers' Company**
Mrs Diana Pagan, Master of the Farriers' Company, presided, assisted by Mr T.F.M. Head, Upper Warden, Mr R.J. Crocker, Middle Warden, and Lady Graham, Renter Warden, at the ladies court dinner held last night at Innholders' Hall. Assistant Mr John W.H. Clemence, Mr A.J. Colvin, Comptroller and City Solicitor, the Right Rev William J.D. Down, Assistant Bishop of Leicester and Honorary Chaplain to the company, also spoke.

Alderman Sir Christopher Walford, Mrs Anna Whitehead, the Commandant of the Defence Animal Centre and the Headmistress of St Martin-in-the-Fields High School were among those present.

**Lord Byron**
Lord Byron, President of the Byron Society, was the speaker at a dinner held last night at the House of Lords.

Mr Geoffrey Bond, chairman, and Lord Gilmour of Craigmillar also spoke.

## Luncheon

**Maple Leaf Club**
The High Commissioner for Australia was the principal guest at a Maple Leaf Club luncheon held yesterday at Over-Seas House, St James's. Mrs Judith M. Steiner, chairman of the club, presided. Mr Geoffrey Bacon, Chairman of the Canada/UK Colloquia, also spoke.

# Weekend birthdays

TODAY: Mrs G.T. Banks, former Registrar General for England and Wales, 65; Lord Bellwin, 75; Miss Dora Bryan, actress, 74; Mrs Anthea Case, director, Heritage Lottery Fund, 53; Mr Gerald Davies, former rugby player, 53; the Earl of Harewood, 75; Mr Tony Howitt, management consultant, 78; Mr Ian Jack, Editor, Granta, 53; Mr Michael James, writer and nuclear energy adviser, 57; the Hon Peter Jay, writer and broadcaster, 61; Lord Keith of Kinkel, 76; Dr D.R. Langslow, chief executive, English Nature, 53; Sir John Leahy, diplomat, 70; Sir George Moseley, civil servant, 73; Sir Geoffrey Mulcahy, chief executive, Kingfisher, 56; Sir Philip Myers, former Chief Constable, North Wales Police, 67; Mr David Park, author, 45; Earl St Aldwyn, 48; Mr R.W. Watson, former director-general, NFU, 72.

TOMORROW: Mr David Bramson, senior partner, Nabarro Nathanson, 56; Professor Averil Cameron, FBA, Warden, Keble College, Oxford, 58; Miss Rachel Cusk, author, 31; Sir David Elliott, civil servant, 68; Mr Osian Ellis, harpist, 70; Marshal of the RAF Sir John Grandy, 85; Admiral of the Fleet Lord Hill-Norton, 83; Lady Howe of Aberavon, chairman, Broadcasting Standards Commission, 66; Lord Jakobovits, 77; Mrs Diana Ladas, former Headmistress, Heathfield School, 85; Professor Ann Lambton, FBA, Emeritus Professor of Persian, London University, 86; Mr Murray Lawrence, former chairman, Lloyd's, 63; Mr Jack Lemmon, actor, 73; Mr Roger Lloyd Pack, actor, 54; Miss Morag Macdonald, former company secretary, Post Office, 51; Sir Francis McWilliams, former Lord Mayor of London, 72; Sir Kenneth Maddocks, former Governor, Fiji, 91; Dame Elisabeth Murdoch, 89; Mr Alexander P. Papamarkou, international financier, 68; Dr June Paterson-Brown, former chief commissioner, Girl Guides Association, 66; Lord Rayne, 80; Dame Laurie Salas, UN worker, 76; Sir Richard Southern, FBA, former President, St John's College, Oxford, 86; Mr G.J. Strowger, former managing director, Thorn Electrical Industries, 82; the Rev Dr John Tudor, former superintendent minister, Westminster Central Hall, 68; Mr John Williams, composer of film scores, 66.

## Royal president

The Duke of Gloucester became President of the Public Monuments and Sculpture Association on January 1.

# School news

**Aldwickbury School**
Lea House School moved to Aldwickbury, Harpenden, Hertfordshire, in April, 1948 and will mark 50 successful years with a Dinner on Saturday, April 25, 1998, at the London Hilton on Park Lane. Some tickets are still available for our Old Boys to join us. Apply to the Bursar, telephone (01582 713022).

**Westminster School**
The Thirteenth Sir Adrian Boult Memorial Concert, which was given by Thomas Allen accompanied by Malcolm Martineau, took place up School yesterday. Following the Concert, The Head Master held a reception in Ashburnham House.

## University news

**Oxford**
The Eldon Law Scholarship for 1998 has been awarded to Mr Christopher David Lewis, University College.

**Oriel College**
To Honorary Fellowships
Professor Sir John Huxtable Elliott, FBA, Regius Professor of Modern History and Fellow of the College 1990-97
Professor Roger Gaudry, President of the International Association of Universities, 1975-80

**Cambridge**
Darwin College
Katinka Margaretha Ridderbos has been elected into the Adrian Research Fellowship in Philisophy at Darwin College, from October 1, 1998.

Hughes Hall
Elected to be President from October 1: Professor Peter Richards
Elected to Fellowships: Dr Michael John Franklin, Dr Ian Hamilton Robertson.

## Appointments

Mr Stuart William Baker and Miss Angelica Elizabeth Mitchell to become Circuit Judges on the South Eastern Circuit.

Professor Patrick Sims-Williams, FBA, has been appointed a member of the Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales for five years.

Mr Miles Middleton has been appointed Chairman of the Development Commission. Mr David Edwin Fletcher and Mrs Jane Mary Bradford have been reappointed members of the commission.

ANDRÉ CAMARA



Simon Hart and Victoria Walker who have recently announced their engagement

# Weekend anniversaries

TODAY
BIRTHS: St Thomas More, humanist and statesman, Chancellor 1529-32, London, 1478; Charles Dickens, novelist, Portsmouth, 1812; Sir William Huggins, astronomer, London, 1824; Sinclair Lewis, novelist, Nobel laureate 1930, Sauk Centre, Minnesota, 1885.

DEATHS: James Stewart, 2nd Earl of Moray, murdered at Deonibristle, Fife, 1592; Joseph Sheridan LeFanu, novelist, Dublin, 1873; Adolphe Sax, inventor of the saxophone, Paris, 1894; Daniel François Malan, Prime Minister of South Africa 1948-54, Stellenbosch, Cape Colony, 1959.

William Lloyd smashed the 1st-century Portland vase at the British Museum, 1845.

The main group of the Dead Sea Scrolls was discovered, 1947.

HMS Orpheus was wrecked off the coast of New Zealand, with the loss of 185 lives, 1863.

Grenada gained independence, 1974.

TOMORROW
BIRTHS: Robert Burton, scholar, Lindley, Leicestershire, 1577; John Ruskin, writer, artist and social reformer, London, 1819; William Sherman, Union general in American Civil War, Lancaster, Ohio, 1820; Jules Verne, novelist, Nantes, 1828; Martin Buber, philosopher, Vienna, 1878; Dame Edith Evans, actress, London, 1888; King Vidor, film director, Galveston, Texas, 1894; James Dean, actor, Marian, Indiana, 1931.

DEATHS: Mary Queen of Scots, executed at Fotheringay Castle, Northamptonshire, 1587; Peter the Great, Tsar of Russia 1682-1725, St Petersburg, 1725; R.M. Ballantyne, novelist, Rome, 1894; Prince Peter Kropotkin, geographer and anarchist, Dmitrov, Russia, 1921; William Bateson, biologist and geneticist, Merton, Surrey, 1926; Italia Conti, trainer of stage children, Bournemouth, 1946; Sir Giles Gilbert Scott, architect, London, 1960.

Rioting and looting followed a peaceful demonstration of the unemployed in Trafalgar Square, London, 1886.

Kenneth Robinson, Health Minister, announced that cigarette advertising was to be banned from British television, 1965.

Fourteen British mercenaries were executed by firing squad in Angola, 1976.

Shergar, the Aga Khan's Derby winner, was kidnapped from a stable in Co Kildare. A £2 million ransom was demanded, 1983.

# Forthcoming marriages

**Mr M.V. Buckingham and Miss L.M. Scullard**
The engagement is announced between Mark, son of Professor and Mrs David Buckingham, of Snailwell, Cambridgeshire, and Louise, daughter of Mr John Scullard and the late Mrs Ann Scullard, of Henley-on-Thames, Oxon.

**Dr R.A. Hadfield and Dr L.C. Strawbridge**
The engagement is announced between Richard, elder son of Mr and Mrs Robin Hadfield, of Chalfont St Peter, Buckinghamshire, and Louise, elder daughter of Mr John Strawbridge and Mrs Jeffery Lewins, of Cambridge.

**Mr T.P. Jotischky and Miss J. Mitchell**
The engagement is announced between Tim, son of Mr and Mrs Lazlo Jotischky, of Twickenham, Middlesex, and Joanne, only daughter of Mr and Mrs John Mitchell, of Chertsey, Surrey.

**Mr D.M. Law and Miss H.L. Davis**
Both families are pleased to announce the engagement of David Michael Law, of Fulbourne, Cambridgeshire, to Hannah Louise Davis, of Barnes, London.

**Mr W.G. Lee and Miss S.F. Luxford**
The engagement is announced between William, elder son of Mr and Mrs P.G. Lee, of Great Waltham, Essex, and Sarah, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs K.G. Luxford, of Hatfield Broad Oak, Essex.

**Mr J.P. Warburton and Miss H.L. Vaughton**
The engagement is announced between James Peter, son of Mr and Mrs P. Warburton, of West Bradford, Clitheroe, and Helen Louise, daughter of Mr and Mrs R. Vaughton, of Clitheroe, Lancashire.

**Mr R.M. Leonard and Miss M.M. Rattigan**
The engagement is announced from Sydney, Australia, between Mark, son of Mr and Mrs Richard Leonard, of Falls Church, Virginia, USA, and Mairéad, daughter of Judge Michael and Dr Mary Rattigan, of Hong Kong.

**Mr I.B. Nicholson and Miss M.L. Kynge**
The engagement is announced between Iain, son of Mr and Mrs Graham Nicholson, of Darwin, Northern Territories, and Lucy, daughter of Major and Mrs John Julian Kynge, of Potto Grange, North Yorkshire.

**Mr G.M.O. Williams and Miss L.E. Hague**
The engagement is announced between Gideon, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Peter Williams, of Millport, Isle of Cumbrae, Scotland, and Louise, youngest daughter of Dr Nigel Hague, of Reading, Berkshire, and Mrs Christine Hague, of Clifton, Bristol.

**Lieutenant R.I. Williams, RN, and Lieutenant C.M.A. Doughty, QARNNS**
The engagement is announced between Richard, elder son of Mr and Mrs P.N. Francis, of Dulwich, London, and Caroline, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs R.T.M. Doughty, of Wormit, Fife.

## Marriage

**Captain D. Warnett, RN, and Miss J. Goodacre**
The marriage took place in Bath on Saturday, January 31, of Captain Derek Warnett, RN, to Miss Janet Goodacre.

The bride was given in marriage by her father, Mr Anthony Goodacre. Mr Michael Botley was best man.

# Church news

**Next Dean of Lincoln**
The Venerable Alec Knight, Archdeacon of Basingstoke and Canon Residentiary of Winchester Cathedral (Winchester): to be the next Dean of Lincoln Cathedral in succession to the Very Reverend Dr Brandon Jackson.

**Appointments**
The Rev Andrew Ashdown, Vicar, Ryhill (Wakefield): to be Vicar, Denmead All Saints (Portsmouth).
The Rev Paul Berry, Assistant Curate, Halliwell St Luke (Manchester): to be Team Vicar, Horwich and Rivington with special responsibility for St Elizabeth's (same diocese).
The Rev Richard Brand, Team Priest, Fendalton (Christchurch, New Zealand): to be Diocesan Director of Ordinands, and Priest-in-Charge, Hambledon St Peter and St Paul (Portsmouth).
The Rev Sandy Christie, Curate, West Norwood St Luke (Southwark): to be Curate-in-Charge, Wandsworth All Saints (same diocese).
The Rev Richard Brand, Team Priest, Fendalton (Christchurch, New Zealand): to be Diocesan Director of Ordinands, and Priest-in-Charge, Hambledon St Peter and St Paul (Portsmouth).

# ON THIS DAY

## February 7, 1964

*When Britain and France agreed to go ahead with the Channel Tunnel it was expected to cost about £160 million. By the time it was completed the cost had risen to about £10,000 million*

### RAIL CHANNEL TUNNEL TO GO AHEAD

FROM OUR POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

Britain and France have decided to go ahead with a rail Channel tunnel, but no starting date has been fixed and a direct link between the two countries would not be in operation until the early 1970s at the soonest. It will cost between £160m and £170m, on present estimates.

Mr. Marples, Minister of Transport, announced the decision in the Commons yesterday in a statement agreed with the French Government. "In principle, the two governments are committed to do this if they can get over the building and operating difficulties," he said. "There are many problems to be solved, but in principle we have decided it is a good thing".

Joint studies have convinced the two Governments that construction is technically possible and that "in economic terms it would represent a sound investment of the two countries' resources".

No decision has yet been taken on the role, if any, of private equity capital in the enterprise. "It is clearly understood that, whatever happens, the Governments will have to have full control of any future operating company. This, together with the fact that private finance would require government guarantees, must inevitably affect the final decision," Mr. Marples said.

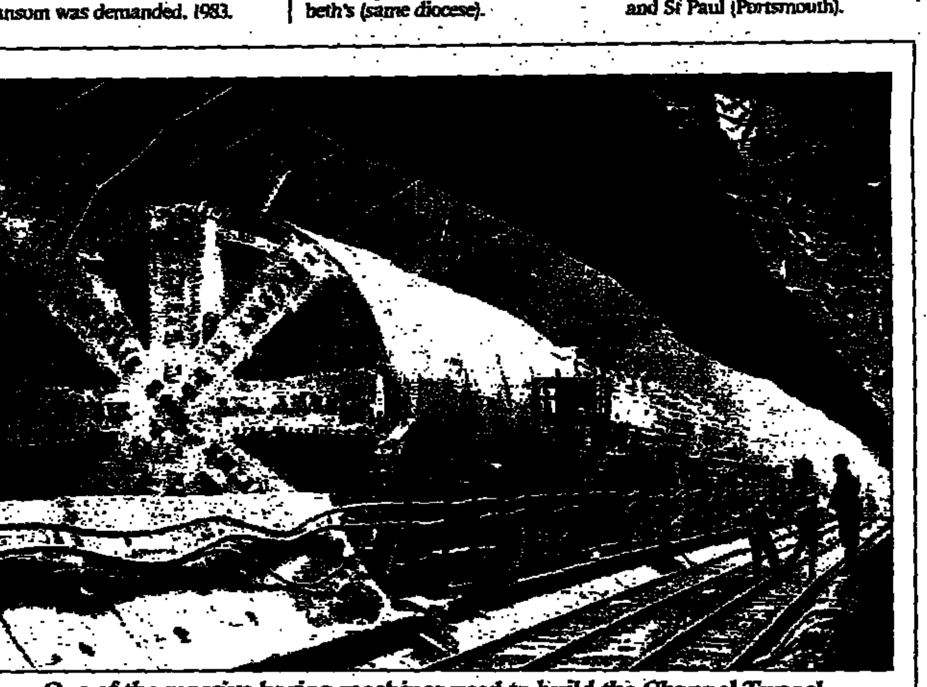
Mr. Strauss, for the Opposition, welcomed the statement as a "step forward after many years of postponement and delay" but wondered if it had not been made because of the impending election. Mr. Marples said the timing of the announcement was "convenient to the French and ourselves".

One of the main technical decisions still to be taken is the method of construction — a bored tunnel or the immersed method. The joint British and French study group which reported last September consider that a bored tunnel was acceptable from an engineering point of view, but did not rule out the construction of an immersed tunnel which would not present serious geological problems, and, if laid below the sea bed, would be protected from shipping and tidal hazards. Their sketch plans envisaged a tunnel emerging between Folkestone and Ashford on the British side and at Sangatte, near Calais, in France.

Organizational arrangements for running the tunnel are subject to a number of permutations, but a separate company to operate trains — possibly without drivers — between the two rail heads seems to be favourite at the moment. This would avoid difficulties arising from any differences in the British and French railway systems.

Both Governments are agreed that there would need to be strict government control of a company controlling the tunnel, if only because a substantial amount of government guarantees would be involved. It is these considerations which govern the participation of equity capital, and one of the reasons for yesterday's statement was to make the obstacles clear to private investors, and prevent share speculation.

The Government's statement on the Channel tunnel came shortly after the close of the Stock Exchange yesterday. Shares of the Channel Tunnel Company were immediately marked up abruptly in inter office dealings, and closed 12s 6d (62.5p) higher on balance at 42s 6d (£2 12p) nominal.



One of the massive boring machines used to build the Channel Tunnel


# PERSONAL COLUMN

BMDS: 0171 680 6880
PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000
TRADE: 0171 481 1982
FAX: 0171 481 9313

Everything that God has created is good, and nothing is to be rejected provided it is accepted with thanksgiving. 1 Timothy 4 : 4

BIRTHS

BERRY - On February 2nd 1998, to Elizabeth (née Barker) and Richard, a son, Luke Gomer.

BERTIE - On February 5th 1998, to Catherine (née Mason-Hornby) and David, a daughter, Lucy Victoria Isabella, a sister for Charlotte.

BRENTON - On January 29th 1998 at The Rosie Hospital, Cambridge, to Fay and James, a son, Edward Robert.

GAMBLE - On 30th January 1998, to Julie (née Sutton) and Karl, a beautiful daughter, Zoe Evelyn.

GILDER - See Brenton.

HELLING - On January 30th, to Samantha (née North) and Graham, a daughter, Aemelia Lucy Jade, a sister for Alexander.

HOUCHIN - On January 29th 1998, to Emma (née Schlesinger) and Julian, a son, Tobias George Schlesinger, a brother for Thomas and Edward.

JAMES - On 29th January, to Leah (née Morris) and Russell, a son, Henry Russell Christopher.

KILPATRICK - On 4th February 1998, to Elizabeth (née Crotty) and Hector, a daughter, Tessa Juliet.

NEWMAN - On January 22nd 1998, to Lucilla (née Thomas-Everard) and Timothy, a daughter, Amelia Bridget Rosemary. A sister for Nathaniel and Hector.

SANDERSON - On February 4th, to Jenny (née Allan) and Stuart, a son, Charlie, a brother for Tim.

RUBY ANNIVERSARIES

BERNARD:DOWMAN - On February 7th 1958 at Penhalonga Church, Umtali, Rhodesia, Bill to Meg. With [illegible]

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARIES

FURNER:DONNELLY - On 7th February 1948, at Prittlewell, Essex, Flt Lt Jack DFC, to Patricia; now living in Cromer, Norfolk.

DEATHS

AGASSI - Meir, Tessa (daughter of Stanley Smith F.Inst.Fuel, ret'd) and Daniel aged 11 years. Tragically as a result of a motor accident they will be sadly missed by their families in England and in Israel and their many friends. A tribute and Thanksgiving for their lives will be held for family and close friends at South Bristol Crematorium on Monday 9th February at 1.30pm. No flowers please but donations in lieu may be sent for a charity to be announced later along with details of an occasion to celebrate their lives. Enquiries please to Arthur E. Davey & Sons, 82 Silver Street, Nailsea, BS48 2DS. Tel: 01275 852307.

BAILEY - At Farnley House, Lymington on February 4th 1998 in her 94th year, peacefully in her sleep, Dorothy Margaret. Widow of George Buchanan Bailey, loved and loving mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. Private funeral and family flowers only.

BOILEAU - Angela, née Jelf, on 4th February peacefully at Earls Colne, aged 80. Widow of Hugh Boileau QC, mother of Nicholas and Anne. A private cremation will be followed by a memorial service at Wormingford Church on Friday 13th February at 12.30 pm, to which all are welcome. Enquiries to A.R. Clarke Ltd, (01787) 472164.

COX - Brigadier Charles Francis peacefully on 5th February in his 91st year, husband of Susan, father of Christopher, Camilla and Serena and grandfather. Thanksgiving Service at St Peter and St Paul, Broadwell, 2.30 pm on Thursday 12th February. No flowers. Donations if desired to FSID (Cot Death Research) and Burford Hospital c/o E. Taylor & Son, 21 Corbett Road, Carterton, OX18 3LG.

CULLERNE-BOWN - Wg. Cdr. Henry Stanley died peacefully February 4th aged 91 years. A great character and loving father. Funeral St Luke's, Sydney Street, Chelsea, February 13th at 3 pm. Committal at Mortlake Crematorium 4 pm.

DEDEAR - Margaret, peacefully at Lymington on February 3rd. Beloved mother of Alice, Dick and Peggy. Funeral arrangements contact Diamond & Son Funeral Directors, Lymington (01590) 672060.

DEGERHARDT - Mary Madeleine widow of William Kevin and beloved sister-in-law of Peg peacefully in London on 4th February aged 88.

DOWN - Priscilla Down of Sunbury on Thames and Aldeburgh died suddenly on 1st February 1998. She was greatly loved and will be sorely missed by her husband Peter, children Robin, Simon, Carol and Philippa, her five grandchildren, and sister Pip. The funeral will be at St Saviours Church, Vicarage Road, Sunbury (by Sunbury Cross roundabout) on Thursday 12th February at 11 am.

HAMILTON - Kenneth James Brown Kilgour, fell asleep holding hands with his adoring mother Helen and loving wife Melanie on Wednesday 4th February. Proud father of little Alexander and dearest brother of Kristine and Jane. He was held in great esteem and with affection by his family, friends, fellow golfers at Moor Park and colleagues at Polycell. Funeral Service at Christ Church, Chorleywood on Wednesday 11th February at 12 noon. Private cremation. Family flowers only please. Donations if desired via Maplestones (01895) 632255 or at the service. Service of Thanksgiving and celebration golf day will follow in the summer.

HARVEY - Mary Madeleine peacefully at 2 pm on Wednesday 4th February aged 88. Private cremation followed by Thanksgiving Service at St John's Wood Parish Church on Tuesday 10th February at 11.15 am. Donations to DGAA preferred otherwise cut flowers only (no wreaths please) to the church

JACOB - Peter George, Loss Adjuster, of Saffron Walden, died suddenly January 29th 1998. Enquiries to Peasgood & Son (01799) 523314.

LATCHMORE - On February 5th suddenly and peacefully aged 91 years John, much loved husband of the late Joyce and much loved father of Gillian, Andrew and the late Guy. The Funeral Service and Committal will take place at St Barnabus Church, Weston on Wednesday February 11th at 12 noon to be followed by private cremation. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to St Barnabus Church c/o The Rev. P. Summers, The Rectory, Kirkby Overblow, Harrogate HG3 1HD.

MARTIN - Donald Henry peacefully at home on February 5th 1998 aged 72, beloved husband of Margaret, dearly loved father of Simon, Piers and Rebecca. Memorial Service will take place at St John the Baptist Church, Membury, near Axminster on Friday February 13th at 3 pm. Family flowers only please but donations may be sent for The Marie Curie Foundation c/o Kelvin & Sons Funeral Directors, 54 Holyrood Street, Chard, Somerset TA20 2AL, tel: (01460) 61851.

MOSS - Baron. Peacefully at East Surrey Hospital on 6th February. Truly loved. Husband of Joan, father of Natasha (Jenny) and Alan, grandfather of Lily. Funeral private.

MUDREWICZ - Julian, Medical Practitioner (retired), on 1st February 1998, suddenly in London aged 88. Much loved and respected; will be greatly missed by daughters Clara and Ania, family in England, Poland and America, friends, colleagues and patients. Funeral Mass at Polish Chapel, Walm Lane, NW2 on Wednesday 11th February 1998 at noon followed by burial at Hampstead Cemetery, [illegible]

PACKHAM - Brian Fivessh died peacefully at Carrick Lodge Nursing Home, St Ives, Cornwall on February 5th. Beloved husband of Patricia, deeply loved and sadly missed by his family, daughter Jane, son-in-law Peter and two granddaughters Alice and Tamsyn and his devoted brother Christopher and family. Funeral Service at St Ives Parish Church at 2.15pm on Tuesday February 10th followed by cremation. Family flowers only but donations if desired for St Ives Parish Church Restoration Fund may be sent to Funeral Director W.J. Winn, Trenwith Terrace, St Ives, TR26 1QE.

RIDDELL - Mary. Died peacefully on February 5th, 1998. Widow of Robert and dearly beloved mother and grandmother. Requiem Mass at Belmont Abbey, Hereford on Tuesday, February 10th at 11.30 am. Family flowers only, donations if desired to St Michaels Hospice, Bartestree, Hereford.

SHEPHERD - Allison, The Lady Shepherd JP, who died on 3rd February. The funeral will take place at Golders Green Crematorium at 12 noon on Tuesday 10th February. No flowers please but donations to Save The Children would be her wish.

WATT - Violet Isabel (Vie) (Née Baley). Peacefully on February 5th 1998 aged 89, in the loving care of St Raphael's, Danehill after a long illness. Beloved wife of the late Teddy. Dearly loved mother of Ian and Jonathan and much loved mother-in-law, grandmother and great-grandmother. Funeral Service at Eastbourne Crematorium on Friday February 13th at 4 pm. Family flowers only please, but donations if desired to Queen Alexandra Cottage Homes c/o Haine & Son Ltd, 19 South Street, Eastbourne, BN21 4UJ.

WILCOX - John Graham, Musician, late of Cheltenham, died peacefully in Australia, 2nd February 1998 aged 58. His untimely death mourned by his widow Pamela, brothers William and Ingram, five nephews and nieces and many friends. Messages c/o Flat 4, 37 [illegible]

IN MEMORIAM — PRIVATE

KNOWLING - In ever-loving memory of Ellen, wife of the Rev. Dr. Knowling, Canon of Durham, February 8th 1914.

BIRTHDAYS

ABBOTT Robin Congratulations on reaching your 21st birthday. Lots of love Mum & Dad.

GREENWOOD Barbara. Happy 60th Birthday, with love from us all. xxxxxxxx

HAPPY birthday sweetheart, my thoughts are with you on the 8th. All my love Ruth xxx

WANTED

INTERESTED in Thomas Rudworth (1701-73) of the Holt, Hants. Mrs S.W. HOLT, P.O. Box 7046 Station A, Saint John, N.B. E2L 4S8, Canada. Fax: +1 506 693 8739

PRINCESS DIANA
hand written letters and signed photographs wanted.
Paying at least £750
Also paying £500 for Xmas Card.
Contact: Nate Sanders,
3629 Manhattan Avenue,
Apt 292, Hermosa Beach,
California 90254 USA.
Tel: 00 1 310 937 2240
Fax: 00 1 310 937 2340

TICKETS FOR SALE

W.R.U. DEBENTURE SEATS for sale Tel 01446 730730

FOR SALE

A BIRTHDATE Newspaper. Original, Superbly presented. Freephone 0800 906409

SALVATORE FERRAGAMO boots, long, black. Paid £340 sell £99. Size 7.5W6 mm. 07050 040573

YORK, PENNANT, slate, limestone & terracotta flagstones & floor tiles. Cobble setts, stone troughs, masonry service. Nat & Internat del. Holley Hassall 01380 850039 (Wilts)

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

BOSTON Upright piano designed by Steinway 3 yrs old, beautiful tone. £2995. 01293 821200

BRAND Grand Piano in black. Well maintained, magnificent tone. £1,750. 0181 343 1763.

Forsyth since 1857
Piano Sale
Upto 40% off, 0% Finance
Over 150 New Pianos Including
Schimmel, Boston, Kawai, Opus, Kemble, Yamaha, Woodchester, Ibach, Knight + 4 quality reconditioned Steinways
Best Digital Piano Prices
on Yamaha, Technics, Roland, Kurzweil, Kawai, General Music
Piano Automation our Speciality
Everything available Mail Order
Well worth a visit or send for a
Free Sale catalogue
Tel: 0161-834 3281
Fax: 0161-834 0630
126 Deansgate, Manchester, M3 2GR
Email: ForsythMus@aol.com

ANTIQUES & COLLECTABLES

BELLS Whiskey for sale, limited edition, 1982, P. William of Wales. Tel: 0161 4462945.

CONGRATULATIONS

ALLAN'S & WENDY'S Pearl Wedding Anniversary Card is six of hearts-congratulations-sis.

GIFTS

A BIRTHDATE Newspaper 1847-1997 in presentation folder £19.00 incl p&p. Newsreel year videos avail. Tel/fax 01934-412844 9am 7 days.

FLOWERS BY POST year round. 12 Carnations £10.60, 18 £13.00, 12 Carnations & 25 Freesias £18.00, 25 Freesias £10.50, 24 Carnations & 25 Freesias £24.50. Card and postage inc. La Neuve Maison Nursery, St Saviour's, Guernsey. CI. Tel 01481 65062. CC's. [illegible]

HEALTH & BEAUTY

MENOPAUSAL PROBLEMS?
CONSIDERING H.R.T.?
We have a natural alternative without the side effects!
INTERESTED?
Ring 01282 614006 or 459494
or send S.A.E. to:
Box 9, Perpetual Innovations,
Lodge House, Lodge Square,
Burnley BB11 1NM

FLATSHARE

FULHAM. Elegant house. 1 room, en suite. £410 pcm + bills. 0171 731 0060 early AM/eves/ 0956 520161 or 00 32 22163207.

SOUTH KENSINGTON Sunny 1 bdrm, top fl period build, views, com gdn, avail March. £220pw. Peter 0171 565 2842.

MEET SOMEONE THROUGH
THE TIMES
THE SUNDAY TIMES
CLASSIFIED
0171 481 4000

VALENTINE GIFTS

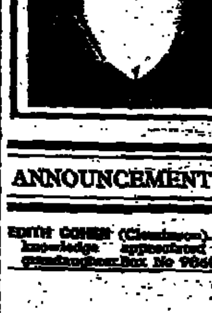
DESIGNER WINES
THE PERFECT VALENTINE'S GIFT - SEND A BOTTLE to your chosen one with your special message printed on the label.
WINE from £11.95 CHAMPAGNE from £22.95 (including delivery).
Order By 10th Feb. for delivery on or before Valentine's day.
We use genuine full colour wine labels, quality printing. Guaranteed delivery. DESIGNER WINES the original and best personalised wine service.
GODWIN & GODWIN WINE IMPORTERS Ltd
KENSINGTON WAREHOUSE,
LONDON ROAD, BATH BA1 6AW
TEL 01225 337081

VALENTINE GIFTS

VALENTINE SURPRISE
Send your loved one a silver heart pony and designer solid silver heart earrings from £60 (inc. delivery within London).
Tel: 0181 505 5166 0181 533 3451
Fax: 0181 505 2030
Emma Abbott-Tonkin (Hosiery)
Julia Cook (Jewellery)
(All major credit cards accepted)

VALENTINES DAY
or any other Occasion
PERSONALISED PUZZLE
for Valentine's Day. Give your loved one something unique with a heart shaped Personalised Crossword or Wordsearch Puzzle specifically designed with them in mind.
For info: The Crossword Connection,
Tel: 01500 690280 (24hrs)
E-mail Crossword@AOL.com

EMMA POLAND



The perfect Valentines gift.
Luxurious solid gold heart locket and chain. £62.99.
To order call
0171 370 2715.
Engraving service available.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

EDITH COHEN (Clenimore). Any knowledge appreciated by granddaughter. Box No 9860

GURDJIEFF Ouspensky courses, a Fourth Way school now accepting students 0181 347 8888.

LOST contact with Mrs. Swallow (Calidad) in March 87 in Bordeaux. Pls write TT07, The Times, 8 rue Halevy, 75009, France

SUMMER JOBS. Directories. Abroad or Britain (£8.99) and USA (£12.99) list 50,000+ vacancies from bookshops or Vac-Work, 9 Park End, St, Oxford. (01865-241978)

COURT & SOCIAL
FORTHCOMING MARRIAGES AND MARRIAGES
Please send Court Page announcements by post/fax to:
Mrs J. Neeman, Court & Social Advertising, The Times,
PO Box 495, Virginia Street, London E1 9XS.
Tel: 0171 782 7347; Fax 0171 782 7725
Please include in all correspondence:
a signature of either one of the parties concerned or a parent,
a daytime and home telephone number and address.
Advertisements for the Court Page must be received two working days prior to publication and are accepted subject to confirmation.
Advertising Rate is £15.28 per line inc VAT.

# OBITUARIES

## MONICA EDWARDS

**Monica Edwards, children's author, died on January 18 aged 85. She was born on November 8, 1912.**

A generation of teenage readers who would now be in their forties to sixties were influenced by the books of Monica Edwards. Her first, *Wish for a Pony*, was published in 1947, and was followed by another 29 children's titles. The last, *A Wind is Blowing*, appeared in in 1969. Although the early books were staunchly redolent of the immediate postwar ethos, with its food economies and darned clothes, new editions were issued regularly until 1986 and can still be read with pleasure as period pieces.



Fifteen of her children's stories, including *Wish for a Pony*, featured the pigtailed and winsome Tamzin Grey, daughter of the vicar of the fictitious Westling Harbour on the Sussex coast. They were based on Monica's own childhood in the vicarage at Rye Harbour.

The maps in the books are faithful to the Romney Marsh she had known as a child, and included Rye (as Dunsford) and Winchelsea (as Winklesea), although the River Rother and Hastings kept their names. She always claimed that *Wish for a Pony* was her least favourite book and that it faintly irritated her that it was consistently popular. Certainly it may have contributed to her reputation as a writer of pony books. But she always insisted that her books were not of the "pony book" genre, merely country books in which horses happened to play their part.

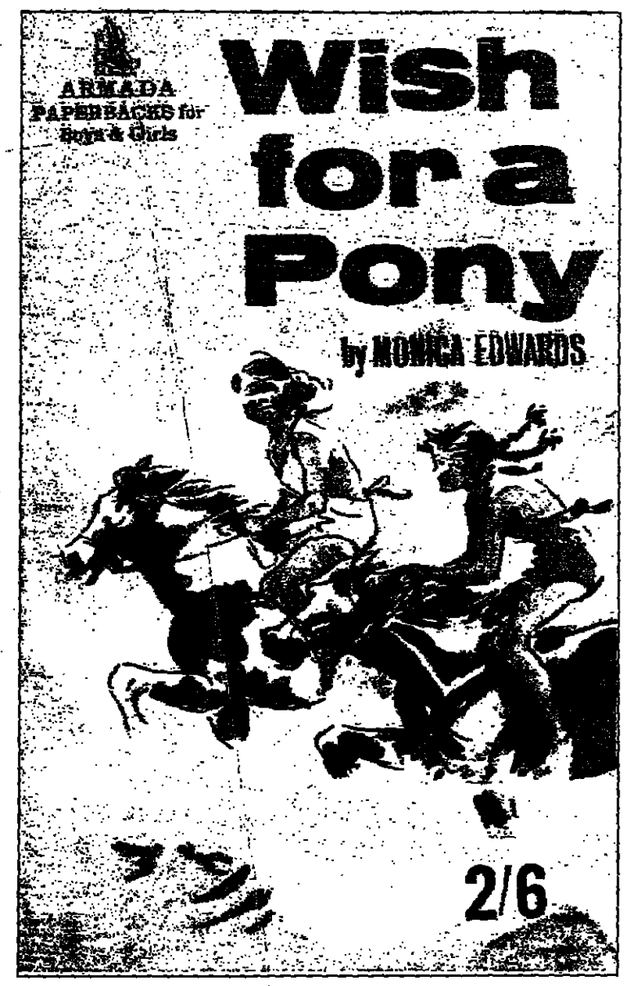
Actually, she need not have minded this classification, since it was widely acknowledged at the same time that her characters were considerably more real than the cardboard cutouts who so frequently peopled books of this type, at that era. Her Tamzin, Rissa, Roger and Meryon were the Romney Marsh's answer to Arthur Ransome's Swallows and Amazons, roaming at will over its mysterious expanses and communing with its open skies and the distant sea.

Monica Edwards was born in Derbyshire, whose terrain and climate were in marked contrast to the South Coast and southern countryside which gave her books their atmosphere. Her schooling was a somewhat peripatetic affair. She went to Wakefield High school for Girls and then to St Brandon's Clergy Daughters' School, Bristol, before the family finally settled at Rye Harbour.

Monica's father, the Rev Harry Newton, was somewhat absent-minded with regard to his four children. He often forgot their names, and Monica missed nearly a year at school at Rye Harbour before anyone noticed. But what she missed at school was more than compensated for by the accumulation of experience spending days and nights on the marshes and with the fishermen of Rye Harbour. Not that her parents were aware of this aspect of her education, since her exit from the vicarage at night was down the drainpipe, much in the manner of the schoolgirl heroines of the fiction of the period.

In 1933 she married a Rye man, Bill Edwards, who spent most of his summers in a fishing hut on Camber Sands. They shared an interest in the countryside and, somewhat improbably, in acrobatics, and their acts featured on seaside postcards, which were sold locally.

The themes of the Marsh books were varied. *Storm Ahead* (1953) was based on the lifeboat disaster of 1928, when the "unsinkable" Rye Harbour




lifeboat *Mary Stanford* was lost needlessly with all hands; the loss of 17 young men tore the heart out of such a small community: Monica knew them all, and her father officiated at the funeral, which was much publicised.

Others of her books covered smuggling (*The Summer of the Great Secret*, 1948); defeating developers hell-bent on destroying the unique character of the marshes (*The White Riders*, 1950); rescuing oiled seabirds (*Operation Seabird*, 1957); and finally the transition to adulthood and (for the first time) a hint of romance between Tamzin and Meryon (*A Wind is Blowing*, 1969).

Running parallel with the Marsh books, was the Farm series, the first of which introduced the children Dion and Lindsey Thornton in a story of a country adventure in a gypsy caravan. It actually predated Monica's real-life purchase of Punch Bowl Farm in Thursley, Surrey, later that year. The theme running through all the Farm books was that of children managing Punchbowl (Edwards adopted this fictional spelling as being easier on the eye) Farm, that their mother had "accidentally" bought at an auction (*Black Hunting Whip*, 1950). Others had plots involving buried treasure (*Frenchman's Secret*, 1956); time travel (*Spirit of Punchbowl Farm*, 1952); and an escaped puma (*The Wild One*, 1967).

Among her other books were *Under the Rose* (1968) and *Killer Dog* (1959) which she turned into the screenplay of *The Dawn Killer* (1958) for the Children's Film Foundation. In 1960 she was voted Children's Author of the Year, jointly with Captain W. E. Johns, of Biggles fame.

Her five autobiographical adult books, beginning with *The Unsought Farm* (1954) chronicled her life from the purchase of Punch Bowl Farm. Bill took to farming as though he were born to it. Among her later books, were *The Badgers of Punchbowl Farm* (1966) and *Badger Valley* 1976) which demonstrated her increasing interest in wildlife and conservation. Her meticulously kept field notes, made between 1965 and 1979, log the many hundreds of night hours she spent watching and photographing badgers.

In 1968 her husband suffered a horrific tractor accident from which he only gradually recovered. It was clear that further farming was out of the question and in 1970 they sold Punch Bowl Farm and moved into into a bungalow in the valley, retaining nevertheless 12 acres of Smallbrook Valley.

Bill died in 1990, and Monica suffered from increasing eyesight problems which cut her off from her greatest pleasure, reading, although she continued her daily walk round the valley, which she leaves to the Woodland Trust.

She is survived by a daughter and a son.

## JANET STONE

**Janet Stone, photographer, died on January 30 aged 85. She was born on December 1, 1912.**

WHEN Janet Stone was a new-born baby, her eccentric mother put her in a basket with a lid on it and then lost her on a train, somewhere between Cromer and Davos. It was the beginning of an unusual life.

Nothing about her background would lead one to imagine that artistic talents would reveal themselves. She was descended from Elizabeth Fry and the anti-slave trade campaigner Thomas Fowell Buxton, and most of her family were clergymen.

Her father, Edward Woods, was Bishop of Lichfield: an uncle was Bishop of Winchester. Her three brothers were Frank, Archbishop of Melbourne, Primate of Australia; Robin, Bishop of Worcester; and Samuel, Archdeacon of Christchurch, New Zealand. They were all brilliant public speakers and dynamic organisers.

These qualities are shared by their sister, Gabrielle Pike, who became chairman of the Women's Institute. They were certainly not absent in Janet, but she also possessed other talents: these included an effortlessly beautiful high soprano voice and an acute and fascinated eye for all that she looked at.

She went to the Royal College of Music and, just as her career began to take off, met and married the artist and engraver, Reynolds Stone. She abandoned her career without hesitation.

They moved to an idyllic part of Dorset which was to prove an endless source of inspiration for Reynolds. There she transformed the house (she never ceased to enjoy the exhilaration of moving furniture about) with William Morris wallpaper and Victorian furniture, long before such things became popular.

It became, one could say, the centre of her life's work: the entertaining of a constant stream of extraordinary and diverse friends, who often came to stay bringing their work with them. Iris Murdoch and John Bayley, L. P. Hartley, the Day Lewis family, Sidney Nolan, Benjamin Britten and Peter Pears, to mention only a few.

They, in turn, provided the subjects for a talent that had materialised almost by mistake: her portrait photography. What started off as an impromptu record of her family life became a new career. Underneath her beautiful and stylish exterior lurked an acute shyness and lack of confidence which had hindered her singing career but did not obstruct her photography. Her eye for composition and her ability to seize the moment were instinctive and self-taught.

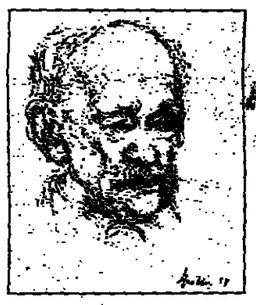
It was typical of her speedy approach to life that she had no interest in arranging artifical lighting for her portraits, or in printing her own photographs. She preferred instead to use the Lightning Photo Company, in Torquay, simply because they guaranteed prints by return of post.

When Reynolds died in 1979, her heart went out of entertaining and taking photographs. But she was delighted when Chatto and Windus published a book of her work, *Thinking Faces*, and the National Portrait Gallery acquired a large selection of her portraits.

She found another house with an astonishing view across the Avon to the spire of Salisbury Cathedral. From there, in her strong italic hand, she continued to write the inimitable and unusually spelt and expressed letters (full of phrases like "barking up the wrong shin"), which had charmed her friends throughout her life.

She leaves two sons and two daughters, all artistic and of all of whom she was immensely proud.

## HARRY HAMBLING



**Harry Hambling, banker and artist, died on January 22 aged 95. He was born on February 1, 1902.**

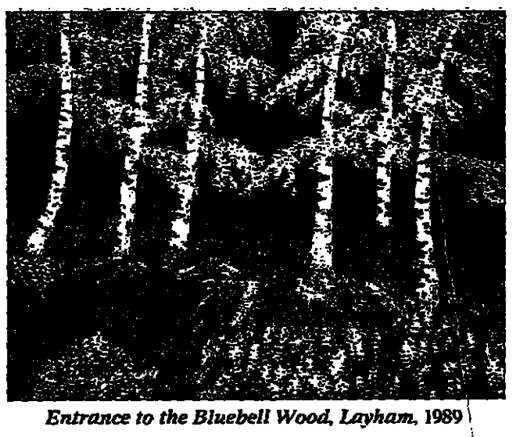
CHILDREN may often follow their parents' professions, but it is unusual for a father to follow in his daughter's footprints as Harry Hambling did. All his life he worked in a bank, and it was only after his retirement when his daughter, the artist Maggi Hambling, gave him a box of oil paints and suggested that he try his hand that he discovered the enthusiasm that was to captivate him until the end of his life.

"I only paint when I see something that I really must paint," he said. "I do my own thing entirely." But he chose as his principal subject the East Anglian countryside around his home town of Hadleigh, painting its stubble fields and bluebell woods in pure bright colours.

Hambling was completely untutored. He knew that to start learning the rules at his age would be to risk losing time and his inspiration, so he made up his own techniques as he went along. Once, when his daughter caught him turning a canvas upside down to paint and wondered why, he replied: "I was doing the grass and its obviously so much easier with upside down strokes."

Harry Hambling was born on a farm at Snape, Suffolk, and although he never wanted to work on the land like his father, he always had a love of the English countryside and the work of the artists who celebrated it.

Educated at Northgate



*Entrance to the Bluebell Wood, Layham*, 1989

School in Ipswich, he left to join a local branch of Barclays as a clerk, working in various branches until the 1920s, when he settled in Hadleigh. But though he remained in banking until his retirement in 1962 he never particularly enjoyed this career, and his enthusiasm and energy always went into activities outside it.

He was a stalwart of the Hadleigh Dramatic Society (and locally renowned for having once produced a live ferret on stage), a fervent supporter of Ipswich Town Football Club and a founder of a local football team and a bridge club. He umpired hockey, was a champion at bowls, avidly enjoyed gardening and was a peppery and amusing contributor to the letters columns of his local paper.

But though he had always had an artistic streak — during the war, when toys were unavailable, he would make little animals out of rabbits' fur and jewellery from beech cones for his children — his creativity was undeveloped until his daughter, who was studying at Camberwell Art School at the time, gave him his first set of paints. For five years they lay unused in a drawer, until one morning, on a whim, he decided to have a go. He never looked back.

As well as the local countryside he also painted still lifes, townscapes and quirky local scenes such as jumble sales — "I found it amusing, these permed ladies with their never ending cups of tea, hopefully arranging perfectly useless garments," he said. But after attempting to paint his wife and succeeding only in making her look "as if she had just been through a bout with Muhammed Ali", he was wary of portraiture.

His first show was held in conjunction with his daughter. He sold everything, she only one small watercolour. He subsequently held seven one-man shows, the last in 1997, and he continued to paint until the end, sketching outside and then returning home to finish, remembering the colours in his mind.

He married Marjorie, a teacher in a church school, in 1933. She predeceased him in 1988. He is survived by two daughters and a son. His daughter Maggi frequently painted him.



# PERSONAL COLUMN


**INTERNATIONAL PHONE CALLS**

OYSTEL LOW COST INTERNATIONAL CALLS



SPECIAL DEALS

PAKISTAN 54p

BT Price £1.54 per min.

| | BT Oystel | | BT Oystel |
|---|---|---|---|
| USA | 8p | HONG KONG | 24p |
| AUSTRALIA | 14p | INDIA | 44p |
| BANGLADESH | 55p | MALAYSIA | 34p |

Rates are from several carriers. Prices based on BT daytime week rates before discount.

- Huge savings on calls to hundreds of countries.
- NO further charges or hidden extra costs.
- Prices quoted are per minute, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and INCLUDING VAT.
- Call NOW for instant big savings on all your international calls - ask your OYSTEL operator for a quote for your specific destination.

CALL FREE ON 0800 3761666

Agents required - call 0118 952 7606 for details

OYSTEL


**TRUSTEE ACTS**

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to s27 of the TRUSTEE Act, 1925 that any person having a CLAIM against or an INTEREST in the ESTATE of any of the deceased person's whose names, addresses and descriptions are set out below is hereby required to send particulars in writing of his claim or interest to the person or persons mentioned in relation to the deceased persons concerned before the date specified, after which date the estate of the deceased will be distributed by the personal representatives among the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

WELDING John Brian of 67 Gannel Road, Hanover, Middlesex HA1 2RR died on 17 January 1998; Particulars to Shaw and Croft (ref:Sheldon KELDING /97349) Solicitors of 115 Hounsditch, London EC3A 7BU before 10th April 1998

CARDUNGEENUTTALLATAMARA of Via B Stringer 9, 00191 Rome, Italy on 26 May 1997; particulars to WITHERS Solicitors of 12 GOUGH SQUARE, LONDON EC4A 3DE (Ref: JAA/SCM) before 8 April 1998.

GROVE, DOROTHY LILLIE of Kingswold Court, Warren Lodge Drive, Tadworth (formerly of 121 Lyndhurst Avenue, Twickenham, Middlesex) died on 26 December 1997 particulars to DIXON WARD Solicitors, of 14 THE GREEN, RICHMOND, SURREY TW9 1QD before 8 April 1998

**LEGAL NOTICES**

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
ALBION CHEMICAL TRADING LIMITED
(In Members' Voluntary Liquidation)

Notice is hereby given that the creditors of the above company are required, on or before the 6 March 1998, to send their full names and addresses and particulars of their debts or claims to me William Jason Hugh Elles of Ernst & Young, Becket House, 1 Lambeth Palace Road, London SE1 7EU and if so required by notice in writing from me are, personally or by their solicitors, to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.

Dated this 30 day of January 1998

W J H Elles, Liquidator.

Note: All known creditors have been or will be paid in full, but if any persons consider they have claims against any of the companies they should send in full details forthwith.

**LEGAL NOTICES**

No: 00349 of 1998
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
COMPANIES COURT
IN THE MATTER OF RIGHTON LIMITED
and
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice on 22 January 1998 for the confirmation of the reduction of share capital of the above named Company from £2,653,100 to £1,443,100 and the cancellation of the capital redemption reserve of £10,000.

AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the Petition referred to above is directed to be heard before the Companies Court Registrar on 18 February 1998 at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2A 2LL.

ANY creditor or shareholder of the above named Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said reduction of capital should appear at the time of hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose.

A copy of the Petition referred to above will be furnished to any such person regarding it by the solicitors for the above named Company on payment of the regulated charge.

DATED this 5th day of February 1998.

FINDENT CURTIS
3 COLMORE CIRCUS,
BIRMINGHAM, B4 6BR.
TEL: 0121-200 1050.
REF:RJS/71229 0101 3/AKE
Solicitors
for the above named Company.

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
LONDON CHEMICAL COMPANY LIMITED
(In Members' Voluntary Liquidation)

Notice is hereby given that the creditors of the above company are required, on or before the 6 March 1998, to send their full names and addresses and particulars of their debts or claims to me William Jason Hugh Elles of Ernst & Young, Becket House, 1 Lambeth Palace Road, London SE1 7EU and if so required by notice in writing from me are, personally or by their solicitors, to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.

Dated this 30 day of January 1998

W J H Elles, Liquidator.

Note: All known creditors have been or will be paid in full, but if any persons consider they have claims against any of the companies they should send in full details forthwith.

LEGAL, PUBLIC, COMPANY & PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES

TO PLACE NOTICES FOR THIS SECTION
PLEASE TELEPHONE
0171 680 6878
FAX: 0171 481 9313

Notices are subject to confirmation and should be received by 2.30pm two days prior to insertion.


**LEGAL, PUBLIC, COMPANY & PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES**

TO PLACE NOTICES FOR THIS SECTION
PLEASE TELEPHONE
0171-680 6878 OR
FAX: 0171-481 9313

Notices are subject to confirmation and should be received by 2.30pm two days prior to insertion.


## MILESTONES



**Karin Jonzen, sculptor, died on January 29 aged 83. She was born on December 22, 1914.**

As a child, Karin Jonzen produced so many comic drawings that her father, scenting a potential *Punch* cartoonist, sent her to the Slade School of Art, where she won prizes for both sculpture and painting. In 1939 she won the Prix de Rome with a somewhat Gothic *Pietá*. During the Second World War she met the painter Basil Jonzen, and married him, with Victor Pasmore as best man. Her portraits include studies of Dame Ninette de Valois, Lord Constantine and Samuel Pepys. The spiritual was always important to her, and her apparently naturalistic figures are notable for their inner life.

*Obituary published on January 31.*

**The Right Rev Lesslie Newbigin, CBE, minister of the United Reformed Church, died on January 30 aged 88. He was born on December 8, 1909.**

One of the foremost missionary statesmen of his generation, Lesslie Newbiggin was an outstanding worker in the cause of Christian reunion. As an undergraduate at Cambridge he first got caught up in the work of the Student Christian Movement, then in its heyday. At 38 he became one of the first bishops of the Church of South India at the point of union in 1947. He then served the World Council of Churches until he was called back to southern India as Bishop in Madras in 1965, remaining there until 1974. In that year he returned to Britain overland by bus, and went on to lecture at the Selly Oak Colleges, Birmingham. He was Moderator of the General Assembly of the United Reformed Church, 1978-79.

*Obituary published on January 31.*

**Dr Robert McIntyre, the SNP's first MP, died on February 2 aged 84. He was born on December 15, 1913.**

Although he was doggedly rejected by the voters at ten other elections, Robert McIntyre made a sliver of history in 1945 when he became the first Scottish Nationalist MP. He was elected at a by-election for Motherwell in April 1945, though he held his seat for only six weeks. He had been party secretary since 1940. When it came to his introduction to the House, he at first refused to accept the usual sponsorship of two sitting MPs, on the ground that this was a part of the place's unacceptable clubbery. After a whole day's protest, however, he accepted because there appeared no other means of his taking his seat. Losing his seat in the Labour landslide of July 1945, he served as chairman of the party, 1948-56, and as its president, 1958-80; he had better luck in local politics than he had done nationally, being the first SNP member of Stirling council and its first SNP Provost.

*Obituary published on February 4.*





**Dennis Selinger, film and theatrical agent, died on February 2 aged 76. He was born in Brighton on July 20, 1921.**

David Niven, Michael Caine, Bob Hoskins and Ben Kingsley were among the names represented by Dennis Selinger, and who counted him as a friend. He also represented three screen James Bonds — Sean Connery, Roger Moore and George Lazenby — but was also generous to many who were not clients. For years he nagged away at Cubby Broccoli, the Bond series producer, to use Pierce Brosnan, who was never a client of his firm ICM, until finally Brosnan was cast in the role. Selinger had become an agent through his brother-in-law, Monty Lyons, before the war.

*Obituary published on February 6.*

# Shares end week on firm note

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

## ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

| 1997/98 High | Low | Company | Price (p) | +/- | Yld % | P/E |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 589 | 407½ | Allied Domecq† | 567 | - 4 | 4.3 | 14.5 |
| 626 | 345 | Bulmer (HP)† | 345 | | 5.4 | 10.7 |
| 75½ | 29½ | Burn Stewart | 31 | | 13.7 | 10.8 |
| 645½ | 427½ | Diageo | 563 | + 12½ | 3.2 | 17.2 |
| 1040 | 835 | Glenmorangie A | 835 | | 2.0 | 20.0 |
| 380 | 277½ | Highland Dist | 279½ | | 4.0 | 12.9 |
| 336 | 157 | Matthew Clark† | 181½ | + 12 | 13.8 | 5.9 |
| 109½ | 49½ | Merrydown W | 56 | | 6.9 | |
| 2307½ | 1366¾ | SA Breweries | 1631½ | + 78½ | 2.2 | |

## BANKS

| 1997/98 High | Low | Company | Price (p) | +/- | Yld % | P/E |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1521¼ | 918¾ | ABN-AMRO | 1231½ | + 3½ | 2.6 | 17.5 |
| 1345 | 710 | Abbey Ntl | 1285 | - 8 | 2.7 | 21.0 |
| 970 | 532½ | Alliance & Leic | 934 | - 7 | 2.2 | 21.9 |
| 691½ | 388½ | Allied Irish | 670½ | - 21 | 2.7 | 19.8 |
| 516½ | 363½ | Aus New Z | 396 | - ½ | 5.1 | |
| 4953½ | 2875 | Bank America† | 4440¾ | + 90¾ | | |
| 715 | 291½ | Bank Scotland | 689½ | - 19½ | 1.6 | 18.6 |
| 1996 | 978½ | Barclays | 1924 | - 6 | 2.2 | 18.3 |
| 1056½ | 517½ | Bk of Ireland | 1056½ | + 31½ | 2.0 | 23.2 |
| 8959¾ | 6006½ | Citicorp | 7718¾ | + 143¾ | | |
| 1759½ | 1268¾ | Commerzbk† | 1637½ | | 2.8 | |
| 262½ | 290½ | Dai Ichi Kan Y | 500 | + 6½ | 0.8 | |
| 4593½ | 2709¾ | Deutsche Bk | 4221¼ | + 168¾ | 1.4 | |
| 1300 | 759½ | Espirito Santo | 1181½ | - 3½ | 3.1 | |
| 947½ | 198 | Fuji Bank Y | 408 | - 15¼ | 1.0 | 75.3 |
| 2369½ | 1277½ | HSBC | 1666 | - 3 | 3.5 | 13.5 |
| 2258½ | 1225 | HSBC Hk | 1568 | - 12 | 3.7 | 12.7 |
| 957½ | 507 | Halifax | 945 | + 7 | 2.0 | 31.8 |
| 812½ | 483½ | Irish Perm | 812½ | | 1.9 | 22.5 |
| 950 | 424 | Lloyds TSB | 858 | - 22 | 2.1 | 25.0 |
| 1004 | 669 | Nat Aust Bk | 802¾ | + 1¼ | 4.9 | |
| 1208 | 663½ | Nat West | 1190 | + 62 | 3.2 | 18.8 |
| 645 | 449 | Northern Rock | 631½ | - 11 | 2.1 | 23.7 |
| 973 | 508 | Ryl Bk Scot† | 974½ | + 20½ | 2.7 | 19.1 |
| 1093½ | 528 | Stand Chart | 700 | - 4 | 2.8 | 12.2 |
| £164½ | £164 | Wells Fargo | £164¾ | | 1.9 | |
| 420½ | 315½ | Westpac | 404 | - 2½ | 3.6 | |
| 400 | 267½ | Woolwich | 379½ | + 2½ | 2.6 | 22.5 |

## BREWERIES, PUBS & REST

| 1997/98 High | Low | Company | Price (p) | +/- | Yld % | P/E |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1000 | 695 | Bass† | 940½ | - 1½ | 3.7 | 17.0 |
| 68½ | 43½ | BM for the Bar | 57½ | | 4.1 | 17.2 |
| 205 | 132½ | Burtonwd Brwy | 155½ | | 5.6 | 13.7 |
| 155½ | 110 | City Centre Rest | 117½ | | 2.7 | 18.3 |
| 838 | 575½ | Compass Gp | 829 | + 1 | 1.5 | 28.6 |
| 305 | 250 | Eldridge P A | 282 | | 2.7 | 14.2 |
| 307½ | 221 | Enterprise Inns | 306 | - 1 | 3.1 | 16.9 |
| 485 | 412 | Fuller Sm 'A' | 442½ | | 3.0 | 14.2 |
| 586 | 310 | Greenalls Grp† | 405½ | - 1½ | 5.1 | 10.1 |
| 770 | 610 | Greene King | 757½ | | 2.8 | 15.5 |
| 237½ | 152½ | Grosvenor Inns | 236½ | + 3 | 3.4 | 24.7 |
| 293½ | 218½ | Groupe Chez Ger | 286 | | 1.4 | 23.1 |
| 298½ | 213½ | Hardy Hanson† | 216½ | | 6.6 | 9.4 |
| 2850 | 2025 | Holt J | 2037½ | | 3.7 | 11.4 |
| 78 | 56 | Inn Business | 69½ | - ½ | 2.9 | 11.1 |
| 357 | 293 | Mansfield | 296½ | | 3.1 | 12.2 |
| 315½ | 252 | Marston Thmp | 256½ | + 1½ | 4.1 | 9.1 |
| 515 | 430 | Morland | 435 | | 3.8 | 11.0 |
| 330½ | 210 | Old Eng Pub | 302½ | - 1 | 1.0 | 23.9 |
| 47½ | 18½ | Paramount | 27½ | | | |
| 653 | 527½ | PizzaExpress | 686 | - ½ | 0.6 | 35.5 |
| 437½ | 302½ | Ramsdens (H) | 357½ | - 2½ | 1.8 | |
| 378½ | 262½ | Regent Inns | 311½ | + 7½ | 1.3 | 25.1 |
| 180 | 102½ | SFI | 171½ | - 4 | 0.6 | 29.8 |
| 840 | 566 | Scot & Newc† | 815 | - 3 | 3.4 | 16.3 |
| 305 | 222½ | Vaux Group† | 251 | | 5.5 | 10.7 |
| 339½ | 221 | Wetherspoon JD | 317½ | - 12 | 0.8 | 46.7 |
| 997½ | 620 | Whitbread | 964 | + ½ | 3.2 | 16.5 |
| 706½ | 430 | Wolvrhmptn D | 496½ | | 4.7 | 11.3 |
| 310½ | 279½ | Yates Bros† | 410 | | 0.9 | 29.5 |
| 702½ | 615 | Young A | 642½ | | 3.0 | 26.6 |

## BUILDING MATERIALS

| 1997/98 High | Low | Company | Price (p) | +/- | Yld % | P/E |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 58½ | 33 | Aggregate Pds | 52½ | + ½ | 4.8 | 23.3 |
| 368 | 290 | BPB | 305 | | 4.0 | 14.0 |
| 110½ | 98½ | Baggeridge Brk | 99½ | | 4.4 | 13.4 |
| 54½ | 27½ | Blockleys | 48 | | 0.4 | |
| 452 | 278 | Blue Circle | 332 | + 2½ | 4.8 | 13.9 |
| 107½ | 78½ | Breedon PLC | 105 | | 6.2 | 14.4 |
| 152½ | 119 | Br Dredging | 127 | | 6.1 | 9.7 |
| 756 | 592½ | CRH | 746 | - 3 | 1.3 | 18.4 |
| 59½ | 42½ | Cakebread Rby | 49½ | | 7.8 | 4.9 |
| 192½ | 106½ | Cape | 117½ | | 6.4 | 9.2 |
| 273 | 158½ | Caradon | 169 | + 2½ | 7.0 | 8.3 |
| 133½ | 93½ | Caradon pf | 103½ | + 1 | 8.6 | |
| 104½ | 50 | Chelsea Gr | 100½ | + ½ | 4.2 | 10.0 |
| 272½ | 201½ | Dyson (J&J) | 218½ | | 3.3 | 13.0 |
| 146 | 105 | Dyson 'A' | 130 | | 6.0 | 7.2 |
| 120 | 46½ | Emstone | 48 | | | |
| 290 | 147½ | Erwin | 149 | | 7.8 | 9.1 |
| 105½ | 63½ | Gibbs & Dandy | 104½ | | 4.6 | 11.1 |
| 174 | 119 | Graham Grp | 162 | | 4.5 | 23.3 |
| 365½ | 187½ | Halstead (J) | 227½ | | 5.3 | 16.1 |
| 334½ | 245 | Hanson | 289 | + 9 | 5.2 | 11.8 |
| 287½ | 187½ | Hepworth | 189½ | | 8.1 | 13.0 |
| 146 | 72½ | Hewetson | 126½ | | 6.3 | 8.4 |
| 268 | 190½ | Heywd Wms | 207 | | 8.3 | 8.5 |
| 75½ | 42 | Ibstock | 49 | + ½ | 5.1 | 18.4 |
| 530 | 275 | Johnston | 345 | | 4.3 | 12.6 |
| 89½ | 62½ | Lilleshall | 86 | | 7.0 | 11.0 |
| 137 | 82½ | Marley | 95½ | | 6.7 | 8.3 |
| 160½ | 119½ | Marshalls† | 121 | | 5.4 | 15.1 |
| 451½ | 328½ | Meyer Intl▲ | 343 | - 1 | 4.5 | 12.8 |
| 84½ | 64½ | Nocros | 68 | | 3.5 | 14.9 |
| 163 | 103½ | Pilkington† | 111½ | - 1½ | 5.2 | 14.3 |
| 264½ | 168½ | Polypipe | 176½ | | 2.4 | 13.2 |
| 27 | 14½ | Quiligotti | 23½ | | | 20.0 |
| 1147½ | 740 | RMC Gp | 820 | + 17 | 3.9 | 11.5 |
| 381½ | 211½ | Redland | 342 | - 1 | 6.1 | 18.0 |
| 114½ | 76½ | Rebenord | 83½ | | 7.3 | 15.5 |
| 139½ | 91½ | Rugby Group | 120 | | 3.9 | 23.5 |
| 112 | 63½ | Russell (A) | 84½ | | 4.1 | 12.8 |
| 346½ | 195½ | SIG | 213½ | + ½ | 4.3 | 10.9 |
| 3½ | 1½ | SMP | 2½ | | | 15.0 |
| 297½ | 211½ | Sharpe & Fisher | 225½ | | 3.3 | 14.7 |
| 20½ | 9½ | Sonnig Ram | 14½ | - ½ | | |
| 197½ | 144½ | Streamline Hldgs | 160 | | 6.9 | 9.8 |
| 134 | 93 | Tarmac | 103½ | - ½ | 6.6 | 13.1 |
| 140 | 82½ | Tilon† | 87½ | | 7.4 | 9.3 |
| 573 | 436½ | Travis Perkins | 471 | + 10 | 2.7 | 16.5 |
| 69½ | 34½ | Tudor | 68½ | + ½ | 4.9 | 13.6 |
| 287½ | 157½ | Ultraframe | 275½ | - ½ | 1.6 | |
| 549 | 410 | Wolseley | 472 | + 2 | 3.0 | 15.2 |

## CHEMICALS

| 1997/98 High | Low | Company | Price (p) | +/- | Yld % | P/E |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 173½ | 134½ | Albright & Wil | 147½ | - 1½ | 5.5 | 15.3 |
| 204 | 99 | Allied Colloids† | 201½ | | 2.0 | 27.3 |
| 135 | 100 | Amber Ind | 116 | | 6.3 | 9.0 |
| 117½ | 91½ | Amberley Grp† | 93½ | | 2.5 | 15.8 |
| 2531½ | 1865½ | BASF DM | 2171½ | + 3½ | 2.6 | |
| 1195 | 850 | BOC | 975 | + 9 | 3.4 | 16.4 |
| 379½ | 248 | BTP† | 342½ | - 1 | 4.3 | 16.4 |
| 2859½ | 1934¾ | Bayer DM50 | 2516¾ | | 2.3 | |
| 132½ | 63½ | Brent Chems | 102 | | 4.0 | 10.9 |
| 265½ | 185 | Br Vita | 248½ | + 3½ | 4.3 | 13.4 |
| 192½ | 130½ | Brunner Mond | 131½ | | 8.3 | 7.2 |
| 315½ | 241½ | Canning (W) | 268½ | | 4.1 | 12.9 |
| 250½ | 149½ | City Technology | 205½ | | 3.2 | 19.3 |
| 402½ | 234 | Courtaulds | 284½ | + 4 | 5.8 | 12.2 |
| 424 | 246 | Croda | 355½ | - 6 | 2.3 | 14.9 |
| 355½ | 200½ | Doeflex | 205½ | - 1 | 4.9 | 8.7 |
| 142 | 101½ | Elements | 128 | + 2½ | 8.6 | 14.3 |
| 325½ | 238½ | Elec & Eurotct | 298 | | 4.3 | 12.8 |
| 72 | 45½ | Euro Colour | 53 | - ½ | 5.2 | 10.5 |
| 153½ | 61½ | Gibbons† | 145 | | 6.0 | 9.8 |
| 97½ | 52 | Hickson | 73 | | | 14.0 |
| 2916½ | 2059½ | Hoechst | 2421½ | | 2.0 | |
| 263½ | 118½ | Holliday Chem | 263½ | + 1 | 2.7 | 19.0 |
| 1110 | 681½ | ICI | 995 | - 17 | 3.3 | |
| 250½ | 161½ | Isopet | 204 | - 2½ | 4.0 | 10.1 |
| 150½ | 119 | Kalon | 156 | + 1 | 4.4 | 23.3 |
| 773 | 592½ | Laporte | 663 | - 4½ | 4.3 | 13.3 |
| 250 | 115 | Manders | 245 | | 5.9 | 30.6 |
| 91 | 39 | Mersdon | 55½ | | 5.0 | 7.3 |
| 36 | 22 | Metrotect | 23½ | | 3.9 | 8.5 |
| 347 | 240 | Porvair | 331 | | 2.2 | 27.9 |
| 246 | 174½ | Scapa | 204 | | 3.6 | 11.0 |
| 29 | 17 | Scott-Pic Spss | 20½ | | 7.1 | 6.9 |
| 1961½ | 1136½ | Takeda Chem | 1792½ | - 19 | 0.4 | 30.2 |
| 291½ | 147½ | Victrex | 229 | + ½ | 2.5 | 21.6 |
| 635 | 535 | Wardle Storeys | 625½ | | 5.2 | 11.7 |
| 243 | 158 | Yorks Grp | 214 | - 1 | 5.4 | |
| 381½ | 264½ | Zeneca | 341½ | - 3 | 3.4 | 14.4 |

## CONSTRUCTION

[AAF Inds, Abbey, Allen, Amec, Amey, Andrews Sykes, Ashtead, Avonside, Banks, Barcom, Barratt Devs, Beazer, Bellway, Bellwinch, Ben Bailey, Berkeley Grp, Bett Bros, Birch (Henry), Bovis Homes, Brandon Hire, Britannia Grp, Bryant, CALA, Carrand & Arm, Clarke T, Costain, Countryside, Crest Nicholson, Dawson, Eve Group, Galliford, Gleeson (MJ), Heywood Euro, Hewden Stuart, Howard Hldgs, Jarvis, Kelley, Kier, Laing (J), Laing 6¼% Cv Pf, Lovell (YJ), Mowlem (J), McAlpine (A), McCarthy & S, McInerney, Morgan Sindall, Morrison Cons, Moslem (J), Persimmon, Prestige, Proctors, Prowting, Raglan, Ruberoid, Sandell, Swan Hill, Try Homes, Taylor Woodrow, Tilbury Douglas, Try Group, Tibbury, Walker Hldgs, Westbury, Wilson (C), Wilson Bowden, Wimpey G]

## DISTRIBUTORS

| 1997/98 High | Low | Company | Price (p) | +/- | Yld % | P/E |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 212½ | 149½ | Acton Cp Sols | 186 | + 1 | 1.7 | 18.7 |
| 410 | 275 | Adam & Harvey | 320 | | 5.8 | 4.8 |
| 21½ | 6½ | Alexanders | 10½ | | | |
| 4½ | 1½ | Ass Br Eng | 1½ | | | 68.E |

## DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

| 1997/98 High | Low | Company | Price (p) | +/- | Yld % | P/E |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 590 | 420 | BSS Group | 422½ | | 6.2 | 12.7 |
| 16½ | 12½ | Bearing Power | 14½ | | | |
| 39½ | 34½ | Bogod 'A' | 34½ | | 3.3 | 5.5 |
| 880 | 530 | Brammer | 566 | - 1 | 3.6 | 13.7 |
| 27 | 10½ | Bridgend Gp | 11 | | 2.3 | 50.2 |
| 119½ | 79 | Brit Fitngs | 80½ | | 7.0 | 6.4 |
| 366 | 300 | Caffyns | 345 | - 2½ | 4.7 | 7.9 |
| 225 | 162½ | Cat Group | 184 | + ½ | 3.2 | 17.4 |
| 172½ | 117½ | Caverdale | 140 | | 3.4 | 8.1 |
| 100 | 61½ | Charles Sidney | 87½ | | 4.5 | 12.5 |
| 59½ | 31½ | Cook (DC) | 45½ | + 1 | 6.7 | 6.5 |
| 121 | 90½ | Dag Motors | 104½ | | 9.6 | 6.8 |
| 134½ | 102½ | Dennans Eff | 120 | | 3.1 | 9.4 |
| 400 | 215 | Diploma | 219 | - 2½ | 8.3 | 8.9 |
| 504½ | 387½ | Electrocomps | 468½ | + 2 | 2.2 | 25.2 |
| 76½ | 20½ | Eurocopy | 25 | | 12.9 | |
| 226½ | 117½ | Eurodis Elec | 162½ | | 4.1 | 27.6 |
| 105 | 76½ | European Mtr | 85 | | 8.7 | 8.6 |
| 300 | 213 | Evans Halshaw | 270 | | 7.6 | |
| 55½ | 38½ | Fife Indmar | 47½ | | 10.0 | 6.9 |
| 397½ | 275 | Finelist Grp | 383½ | - ½ | 2.5 | 17.0 |
| 34½ | 19½ | Gardiner | 23½ | + ½ | 5.5 | |
| 79½ | 57½ | Glenchewton | 66 | | 3.0 | 10.7 |
| 110 | 82½ | Gowrings | 97½ | + 1 | 4.0 | 16.2 |
| 15½ | 11 | HR Owen | 14½ | - ½ | 6.4 | 9.6 |
| 103 | 20½ | Hamlets† | 22½ | | | 2.1 |
| 374 | 284½ | Headlam | 352½ | - 1½ | 2.2 | 21.3 |
| 172 | 145 | Holders Tech | 150 | | 5.4 | 12.2 |
| 240½ | 66½ | ISA Intl | 103½ | | 3.6 | 8.1 |
| 308½ | 136½ | Inchcape | 150 | - 2 | 8.2 | 9.9 |
| 72 | 49½ | Jacks (Wm) | 57½ | | 5.4 | 7.4 |
| 373½ | 214½ | Kwik-Fit | 369½ | | 2.0 | 20.3 |
| 474½ | 316½ | Lex Service | 436½ | | 4.7 | 13.2 |
| 122 | 97 | Lookers | 100½ | + ½ | 10.9 | |
| 545 | 351 | Menzies (John) | 382½ | + 12½ | 4.6 | 12.2 |
| 9 | 4½ | Middlesex | 5 | | 2.5 | 13.2 |
| 41½ | 10½ | Mid-cales | 18 | | 3.3 | |
| 472 | 180 | Morbain | 263 | - 1 | 4.2 | 10.6 |
| 281 | 114½ | Northamber | 255 | - 2½ | 1.3 | 17.8 |
| 352½ | 285½ | Partco | 332 | + 1½ | 3.1 | 17.5 |
| 394½ | 249½ | Pendragon | 290 | | 5.1 | 11.0 |
| 223½ | 167½ | Perry Gp | 168½ | | 6.8 | 7.4 |
| 751 | 272 | Premier Farnell | 357½ | + 6 | 4.4 | 13.3 |
| 144½ | 116 | Quotec Group | 121 | | 7.7 | 8.0 |
| 357 | 240 | REA | 255 | | 2.0 | 56.3 |
| 2½ | 1½ | Reece | 2 | | | 66.9 |
| 140½ | 23 | Reg | 36½ | | 7.5 | 9.1 |
| 28 | 4½ | Ronson | 6½ | - ½ | | |
| 5½ | 1½ | Ross Gp | 4½ | | | |
| 109½ | 78½ | Ryland | 99½ | | 5.1 | 9.4 |
| 38 | 24 | SEP Indl | 27½ | | 5.9 | |
| 92½ | 23½ | Saltire | 26½ | | 5.7 | |
| 57½ | 38½ | Sedgemoor | 50½ | | 4.2 | 12.7 |
| 238½ | 226½ | Silkae | 236½ | | 3.8 | 10.6 |
| 415½ | 167½ | Time Products | 181½ | | 8.5 | 7.5 |
| 347 | 134½ | Trust Motor Grp | 134½ | | 10.5 | 5.9 |
| 430 | 228 | UMECO† | 430 | | 1.7 | 23.0 |
| 95½ | 59 | United Ovses Gp | 95 | | 0.5 | 31.1 |
| 352½ | 237½ | Vancy (Reg) | 245 | | 4.0 | 11.4 |
| 770 | 498½ | WF Elect | 770 | + 7 | 2.6 | 23.6 |
| 41 | 25½ | Wilshaw | 39½ | | 2.7 | 10.6 |
| 172½ | 111½ | Wyno | 152½ | + 1 | 2.7 | 14.2 |
| 169½ | 119½ | Young (H) | 145 | | 4.0 | 10.3 |
| 492½ | 300 | Antofagasta | 305 | | 2.1 | 15.6 |
| 328 | 232 | Ascot Hldgs | 244 | - 1 | 2.7 | 10.7 |
| 917 | 509 | Broken Hill | 612½ | - 3½ | 3.4 | 16.4 |
| 824 | 462 | BAT | 587½ | + 6 | 5.5 | 14.5 |
| 60½ | 38½ | Brierley Inv | 41 | - ½ | 11.3 | 6.9 |
| 266 | 167 | Cookson | 183 | - ½ | 5.5 | 11.5 |
| 240½ | 197½ | Cosalt | 231½ | | 6.1 | 9.2 |
| 465 | 265½ | DCC | 465 | | 2.1 | 17.3 |
| 383 | 243½ | Gallaher | 361 | - 11 | 6.7 | 11.3 |
| 667½ | 398 | Hutch Whamp | 375½ | | 3.1 | 22.8 |
| 460 | 361 | Imperial Tobt | 441 | + 1 | 6.1 | 10.8 |
| 532½ | 231½ | Jardine Math | 292½ | + 9½ | 5.2 | 11.4 |
| 158½ | 74½ | Lonrho† | 101 | + 2 | 5.9 | 18.5 |
| 175½ | 141½ | McLeod Russel | 165 | | 5.3 | 12.0 |
| 523½ | 388½ | Powell Duffryn | 504 | + ½ | 6.2 | 13.1 |
| 197½ | 107½ | Slaveley | 120½ | + 2 | 9.3 | 15.8 |
| 604½ | 259 | Swire Pacific | 324½ | + 1½ | 4.3 | |
| 372½ | 241½ | TT Group | 261½ | - 7 | 3.8 | 10.7 |
| 351 | 352½ | Tomkins† | 331 | + 9½ | 3.6 | 14.0 |
| 320 | 165 | Unitech† | 217½ | | 7.5 | |
| 498 | 350 | Rizzle Storeys | 450 | | 5.7 | 13.8 |
| 387½ | 285½ | Wassall | 328 | + 3 | 2.6 | 14.7 |
| 166½ | 122½ | Whitecroft | 133½ | | 4.4 | 21.6 |

## ELECTRICITY

| 1997/98 High | Low | Company | Price (p) | +/- | Yld % | P/E |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 497 | 194½ | Br Energy | 460 | - 1 | 3.8 | 45.3 |
| 785 | 463½ | Energy Group | 779 | + 4 | 3.4 | 15.7 |
| 345 | 190 | National Grid▼ | 284 | + 10 | 5.1 | 13.2 |
| 780 | 427 | National Power | 652 | - 13 | 5.4 | 8.8 |
| 581 | 352½ | Nthn Ireland | 561 | - 5 | 4.8 | 38.8 |
| 900 | 565½ | PowerGen | 834 | + 13 | 4.0 | 12.7 |
| 577½ | 319¾ | Hydro-Elect | 576 | + 1½ | 4.0 | 13.0 |
| 575 | 331½ | Scottish Power† | 508 | + 2 | 4.7 | 12.6 |
| 570 | 373½ | Southern Elect | 550 | - 5 | 5.0 | 14.7 |

## ELECTRONIC & ELECT

| 1997/98 High | Low | Company | Price (p) | +/- | Yld % | P/E |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 493½ | 311½ | Acal | 336½ | | 3.7 | 10.9 |
| 240½ | 129½ | Acorn | 130 | | | |
| 772½ | 365 | Admiral | 736 | - 9 | 0.4 | 55.4 |
| 78 | 32 | Amstrad | 32 | | 2.0 | 15.1 |
| 48½ | 28½ | Arlen | 39½ | | 5.3 | 7.5 |
| 184½ | 103½ | Astec | 124 | - ½ | 1.9 | 14.5 |
| 77½ | 43½ | Azlan | 48½ | + 3 | | |
| 293½ | 130 | BICC | 146½ | + 6 | 10.7 | 13.6 |
| 173 | 41½ | Bailes Hunter | 69 | | 19.1 | 6.5 |
| 382½ | 205 | Bick | 300 | | 6.0 | 9.9 |
| 457½ | 292½ | Bowthorpe | 349½ | - 2½ | 3.7 | 14.0 |
| 15½ | 9 | Bulgin A | 14½ | - ½ | 6.5 | 17.6 |
| 187½ | 127½ | CML Micro | 187½ | + 7½ | 4.1 | 22.4 |
| 39½ | 14 | Channel Hldgs† | 16½ | | 12.5 | 5.1 |
| 45 | 27½ | Chloride† | 41½ | | 2.1 | 10.0 |
| 109 | 54 | Clophthet | 92½ | + 16 | 4.8 | 10.2 |
| 920 | 537½ | Critchley | 752½ | | 2.2 | 20.2 |
| 382½ | 213½ | Delta | 237½ | + ½ | 8.0 | 8.7 |
| 445 | 255 | Domino | 445 | | 3.5 | |
| 95½ | 62½ | Dowding Mills | 70½ | - 1 | 5.7 | 12.0 |
| 306 | 220 | Druck† | 280 | | 0.8 | 30.2 |
| 5625 | 3316¾ | Electrolux 'B' | 4469½ | + 16½ | 2.2 | |
| 27½ | 17 | Emess | 19 | | 2.6 | 12.7 |
| 3100 | 1771½ | Ericsson 'B' | 2403½ | - 62½ | 0.8 | |
| 541 | 305 | Eurotherm† | 374 | + 4½ | 3.3 | 16.5 |
| 675 | 463 | Fairey Group | 477½ | - 3 | 2.2 | 14.5 |
| 563½ | 291½ | Filtronic Com | 552½ | - 1 | 0.4 | 38.1 |
| 32 | 10 | Forward Tech | 13½ | | 2.4 | |
| 420 | 327½ | GEC | 395 | + 3 | 4.3 | 18.1 |
| 148½ | 30½ | Ind Control | 45½ | + ½ | 5.5 | 7.5 |
| 26 | 12 | Ielotek | 18 | | 6.9 | |
| 146½ | 81½ | Kode | 146½ | + 3 | 2.1 | 13.3 |
| 78 | 37½ | LPA Indt | 58 | + 1 | 4.8 | |
| 39½ | 11 | Microvitec | 15½ | | 7.1 | |
| 435 | 435 | Mitel | 435 | | | |
| 242 | 92 | Network Tech† | 141 | - 1 | 1.1 | 16.4 |
| 458 | 275½ | Oxford Instl | 276½ | - 5 | 3.5 | 9.6 |
| 237½ | 23½ | Pace Micro | 39 | | 6.4 | |
| 5498½ | 2328½ | Philips Lmp nv | 3768½ | - 53½ | 1.3 | |
| 225 | 142½ | Plasmec | 225 | | 3.6 | 13.4 |
| 238½ | 33½ | Plessccm | 40 | - ½ | 3.1 | |
| 313½ | 209½ | Prestac | 293½ | | 1.8 | 21.5 |
| 48 | 29½ | Prestwick | 42 | | 3.0 | 12.8 |
| 512½ | 276 | Psion | 445½ | + 7½ | 0.6 | 36.9 |
| 301½ | 201 | Racal Elect | 256½ | | 2.9 | 48.3 |
| 135½ | 74½ | Radamec | 75 | | 5.2 | 11.5 |
| 380 | 258 | Renishaw | 340 | | 3.2 | 20.9 |
| 3½ | 1½ | Rodime | 1½ | | | |
| 221½ | 149½ | Roxboro | 206½ | - ½ | 4.1 | 12.8 |
| 234½ | 165½ | SDP Bus Syst | 222½ | | 1.3 | 26.6 |
| 411½ | 258 | Servomex | 261½ | | 4.1 | 14.5 |
| 83½ | 38½ | Silvermines | 38½ | | 4.5 | 10.6 |
| 5896½ | 3671½ | TDK | 4450 | - 62½ | 0.6 | |
| 108 | 55½ | TGI | 64 | | 6.9 | 6.7 |
| 125½ | 91 | TLG† | 96 | | 5.3 | 11.3 |
| 34½ | 7 | Tadpole Tech | 10½ | + ½ | | |
| 82½ | 42½ | Telemetrix | 45 | | 4.0 | 19.5 |
| 312½ | 175 | Telspec | 272½ | - 2½ | | |
| 177½ | 125½ | Thorpe FW | 130 | - 1 | 4.0 | 9.6 |
| 108½ | 27½ | Total Systems† | 107½ | + 14 | 1.6 | 23.2 |
| 297 | 70 | Tunstall† | 106 | | 8.1 | |
| 79½ | 26½ | Vethy | 69½ | - 1½ | 0.2 | |
| 106½ | 77½ | Volo | 85½ | | 8.5 | 6.7 |
| 87½ | 30½ | Vislen Technology | 36½ | | | |
| 553½ | 400 | Volex | 463 | - 2 | 5.8 | 12.7 |

## ENGINEERING

## ENGINEERING, VEHICLES

| 1997/98 High | Low | Company | Price (p) | +/- | Yld % | P/E |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 154 | 97 | Adwest | 133 | | 6.3 | 10.8 |
| 197 | 152 | Airflow Stream | 153½ | | 6.5 | 11.1 |
| 757 | 585 | Avon Rubber | 620 | | 3.7 | 13.9 |
| 344 | 227½ | Bostrom | 342 | - 1 | 2.6 | 17.1 |
| 140 | 96 | Brian | 119½ | + 2 | 3.6 | 15.6 |
| 339½ | 238½ | Dewes | 274½ | | 4.2 | 12.7 |
| 348½ | 219½ | First Tech† | 347½ | | 1.4 | 24.4 |
| 1480 | 907 | GKN | 1360 | + 34 | 2.3 | |
| 4396½ | 3237½ | General Mtr | 3687½ | - 28½ | 3.3 | |
| 583½ | 357 | Henlys | 435½ | + 1½ | 4.4 | 10.4 |
| 2328½ | 1540½ | Honda Motor | 2249 | + 9½ | 0.4 | |
| 502 | 312½ | Laird | 413½ | | 3.5 | 11.4 |
| 245 | 180 | LucasVarity | 214 | + 5½ | 2.3 | 13.6 |
| 206 | 131 | Mayflower | 174½ | + 6 | 1.7 | 24.7 |
| 172½ | 97½ | Syltone | 97½ | - 1½ | 8.3 | 8.1 |
| 257½ | 123 | T & N | 253½ | | 4.5 | |
| 85½ | 18 | Toad | 28½ | | | |

## FOOD MANUFACTURERS

| 1997/98 High | Low | Company | Price (p) | +/- | Yld % | P/E |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 645 | 418 | AB Food† | 645 | + 23 | 1.9 | 20.7 |
| 311½ | 250 | Acatos & Hutch | 262½ | | 5.1 | 27.0 |
| 48½ | 31½ | Albert Fisher | 34½ | + 1 | 12.3 | 9.0 |
| 330 | 240 | Banks (S C) | 245 | | 5.9 | 8.8 |
| 495 | 322 | Barr (AG)† | 490 | | 2.8 | 12.7 |
| 44½ | 30 | Benstons Crsp | 40½ | - ½ | 5.0 | |
| 402 | 217½ | Booker | 225 | - 1½ | 13.3 | |
| 701 | 415 | Bratos Bros | 696 | | 1.9 | 23.9 |
| 220 | 83 | CPL Aromas | 86 | | 7.0 | 30.8 |
| 785 | 464 | Cadbury-Schw | 718 | + 2 | 2.8 | 19.4 |
| 335 | 230 | Carrs Milling | 230 | | 6.2 | 7.8 |
| 81½ | 57½ | Caralghan | 81 | + 1½ | 5.8 | 14.1 |
| 267½ | 203½ | Carnwick | 240 | | 5.4 | 11.4 |
| 320 | 195½ | Dairy Crest Group | 303 | + 2½ | 4.2 | 12.9 |
| 363½ | 217½ | Dalgety | 335 | - 3½ | 3.6 | |
| 52½ | 30½ | Daniels SW | 42 | | 0.9 | 23.4 |
| 430½ | 263½ | Devro | 420½ | + 11 | 2.6 | 18.9 |
| 130½ | 79½ | Finlay (James) | 107 | | 4.2 | 19.6 |
| 434½ | 250 | Geest | 434½ | + 3 | 2.5 | 20.3 |
| 26 | 8½ | Global | 9½ | | 8.6 | 5.0 |
| 380 | 270 | Greencore† | 323 | | 2.7 | |
| 195½ | 99½ | Hazlewood Fds | 185 | | 4.8 | 13.3 |
| 190 | 142 | Hillsdown | 149 | + 1½ | 8.4 | 9.4 |
| 77½ | 35½ | JLI Group | 62½ | | 9.9 | 13.0 |
| 420 | 345 | Linton Park | 405 | | 4.9 | 8.7 |
| 142 | 87 | Matthews (B) | 89 | | 5.9 | 8.5 |
| 235½ | 177½ | Nichols (V) | 224½ | | 4.1 | 12.6 |
| 298 | 188½ | Nmo Foods† | 271½ | + 3½ | 4.5 | 15.6 |
| 22½ | 13 | Nrthmbn Fn | 17½ | | 1.4 | 9.0 |
| 105½ | 77½ | Paramount Foods | 105½ | + 1 | 6.0 | 12.0 |
| 105 | 47½ | Pesoes | 58 | | | 61.3 |
| 119½ | 68½ | Perkins Food | 119½ | + 3½ | 4.4 | 12.9 |
| 122½ | 47½ | Plant & Gen | 79½ | | 3.6 | |
| 167½ | 82 | Sealey Farm | 72 | | 8.9 | 6.7 |
| 44½ | 25½ | Sims Food | 33 | | | 3.5 |
| 567 | 398½ | Tate & Lyle† | 432 | - 1½ | 3.7 | 13.3 |
| 191½ | 112½ | Treas | 141 | | 5.5 | 15.1 |
| 648½ | 414 | Unigate | 637½ | + 3 | 4.1 | 15.4 |
| 531 | 337½ | Unilever | 516 | + 5 | 2.0 | 23.8 |
| 3818½ | 2487½ | Unilever (NV)† | 3712½ | + 18½ | 1.6 | 17.3 |
| 257 | 187 | Utd Biscuits | 256 | | 4.9 | 19.8 |
| 47½ | 29½ | WT Foods | 46½ | | 4.0 | 17.3 |
| 15½ | 8 | Yorkshire Food# | 8½ | | | |

## HEALTHCARE

## HOUSEHOLD GDS & TEXT

## INSURANCE

## INVESTMENT TRUSTS

| 1997/98 High | Low | Company | Price (p) | +/- | Yld % | P/E |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 560 | 400 | 3i | 525 | + 10 | 2.3 | 30.6 |
| 106½ | 66½ | Aberdeen High Inct | 106 | | 7.9 | 15.7 |
| 233½ | 84 | Aberdn New Dawn | 128 | | 1.6 | 51.9 |
| 233 | 206½ | Aberforth Smirt | 207 | - ½ | 4.3 | 23.1 |
| 153 | 107 | Aberforth Sm Wts | 117½ | | | |
| 88½ | 51½ | Altrust Emerg | 63½ | | | |
| 2880 | 2112½ | Alliance | 2871½ | - 1 | 2.7 | 44.6 |
| 649 | 471½ | Anglo & O'seas | 645 | - 2 | 1.8 | 67.2 |
| 98½ | 64½ | Asia Opps | 71½ | + ½ | 0.4 | |
| 99 | 51½ | Baillie Gifford SN | 65½ | | | |
| 265½ | 205 | Bankers† | 261½ | - ½ | 2.5 | 42.6 |

## MEDIA

## MINING

## OIL & GAS

## LEISURE & HOTELS

## OTHER FINANCIAL

## PHARMACEUTICALS

## PRINTING & PAPER

## PROPERTY

## RETAILERS, FOOD

## RETAILERS, GENERAL

## SUPPORT SERVICES

## TELECOMMUNICATIONS

| 1997/98 High | Low | Company | Price (p) | +/- | Yld % | P/E |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 605 | 368½ | BT† | 563 | - 17 | 4.2 | 17.0 |
| 1045 | 270 | COLT Telecom | 1038 | + 1 | | |
| 698 | 450 | Cable Wireless† | 613 | - 1½ | 2.2 | 25.A |
| 526 | 240 | Vodafone† | 508½ | - 2 | 1.3 | 41.9 |

## TRANSPORT

## WATER

## ALTERNATIVE INV MARKET


# MAKE THE SWITCH!

**NatWest Streamline has developed the U.K.'s leading card processing business in North Yorkshire**

North Yorkshire has one of the strongest economies in the North of England and offers an environment where dynamic business and an idyllic lifestyle go hand-in-hand.

NORTH YORKSHIRE
WIDENING BUSINESS HORIZONS

Economic Development Centre, North Yorkshire County Council, County Hall, FREEPOST, Northallerton, North Yorkshire DL7 9BR, UK
Tel: 01609 780780 Fax: 01609 779082 E-mail: EcoDev@nycc.octacon.co.uk
http://www.pandora.co.uk/clients/nycc


## BRITISH FUNDS

### SHORTS (under 5 years)

### MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)

### LONGS (over 15 years)

| 1997/98 High | Low | Stock | Price £ | +/- | Int yld % | Grs red yld |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 119¾ | 100½ | Treas 8% 2013 | 118¼ | - ¼ | 6.77 | 6.16 |
| 122¾ | 101½ | Treas 8% 2015 | 120¾ | - ¼ | 6.65 | 6.10 |
| 131½ | 103¾ | Treas 8¾% 2017 | 129¾ | - ¼ | 6.76 | 6.13 |
| 125¼ | 101¾ | Tr 8% 2021 | 123¾ | - ¼ | 6.46 | 6.07 |

### UNDATED

| 1997/98 High | Low | Stock | Price £ | +/- | Int yld % | Grs red yld |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 56¾ | 47¾ | War Ln 3½% | 56¼ | | 6.18 | |
| 40¾ | 30¾ | Treas 2½% | 39¾ | - ¼ | 6.32 | |
| 64½ | 49¾ | Consols 4% | 62¾ | + ¼ | 6.41 | |

### INDEX-LINKED on projected inflation of: 5% 3%

Source: FT Information

# Price at suspension; † Ex dividend; ‡ Ex scrip; ▲ Ex rights issue; ▼ Ex all; § Ex capital distribution. Figures in bold are…



**FUTURE TENSE 30**
Chris Ayres reads the Liffe signals


# BUSINESS

WEEKEND MONEY
SECTION 2

BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 7 1998


# Bill threatens Stock Exchange

## Power to regulate listings may be removed

BY ADAM JONES

THE London Stock Exchange could be stripped of the power to authorise and regulate company listings under legislation being prepared by the Government.

Alistair Darling, the Chief Secretary to the Treasury, said the forthcoming Bill on financial regulation will include a clause to allow the Government to transfer the job to the Financial Services Authority, the new super-regulator.

Mr Darling said the Exchange was operating "satisfactorily" and would carry on as the listing authority. "But we recognise circumstances may change," he added.

There were suggestions that the Bill would immediately strip the Exchange of its role as "UK competent authority for listing", but it is now certain to retain this position, at least in the short term.

However, Mr Darling pointed to the increased competition with the likes of Tradepoint, Easdaq and Nasdaq as a reason to keep the Exchange's role under review. "Before a change was made, we would need to be sure that it was fully justified on the balance of arguments and that arrangements for a satisfactory transition were in place."

"Accordingly, this will be a matter kept under review. Among the factors that could be relevant to any decision to transfer functions could be the institutional arrangements for tackling market abuse and the impact of increased competition in the UK's securities markets."

The Treasury's comments were widely seen as a veiled threat to the Exchange to become more efficient and to improve its record on enforcement of listing regulations. The Treasury is also anxious that it does not abuse the advantage it holds over over other exchanges that can trade but not list shares.

As the listing authority, reponsiblities include vetting companies and putting out company announcements so that all market members get information simultaneously.

A £100 million company would be charged a £5,200 listing fee, plus a separate £22,500 for the right to have shares traded on the Exchange. A company could, however, pay the listing fee only and choose to have their shares traded on a different exchange such as Tradepoint.

Observers say the Government is keen to ensure that other exchanges continue to compete on a level playing field where this kind of overlap occurs.

Mr Darling added: "Discussion about financial regulation has often concentrated on the need of investors. But we should not forget the needs of those seeking to raise capital."

The Office for Fair Trading has criticised the size of underwriting fees demanded by financiers for capital-raising.

The Exchange said it welcomed the Treasury's decision to keep listing and trading functions together in the new Bill. It said this provided companies with a "one-stop" approach that cuts out duplication.

Eighty people are employed in its listings department. It makes no profit on listing fees and believes that it is cheaper than other leading financial centres globally.

Commentary, page 29

## BUSINESS TODAY

**STOCK MARKET INDICES**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| FTSE 100 | 5629.7 | (+23.3) |
| Yield | 2.88% | |
| FTSE All share | 2609.93 | (+10.08) |
| Nikkei | 17040.06 | (+36.76) |
| New York: | | |
| Dow Jones | 8203.44 | (+88.19)* |
| S&P Composite | 1012.09 | (+8.55)* |

**US RATE**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Federal Funds | 5½%* | (5½%) |
| Long Bond | 102²⁹/₃₂* | (102²¹/₃₂) |
| Yield | 5.91%* | (5.93%) |

**LONDON MONEY**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 3-mth Interbank | 7¹⁵/₁₆% | (7¹⁵/₁₆%) |
| Liffe long gilt future (Mar) | 122⁹ | (122²⁹/₃₂) |

**STERLING**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| New York: | | |
| $ | 1.6475* | (1.6550) |
| London: | | |
| $ | 1.6505 | (1.6553) |
| DM | 2.9600 | (2.9609) |
| FFr | 9.9217 | (9.9189) |
| SFr | 2.3897 | (2.3885) |
| Yen | 203.98 | (204.06) |
| £ Index | 104.4 | (104.4) |

**DOLLAR**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| London: | | |
| DM | 1.8025* | (1.7858) |
| FFr | 6.0100* | (5.9870) |
| SFr | 1.4553* | (1.4438) |
| Yen | 124.05* | (123.53) |
| $ Index | 107.3 | (107.3) |

Tokyo close Yen 124.10

**NORTH SEA OIL**

Brent 15-day (Apr) $15.55 ($15.45)

**GOLD**

London close $298.45 ($296.85)

* denotes midday trading price

# Latest drop in factory output defies City forecast

BY GEORGE SIVELL

UK manufacturing industry's output fell by 0.5 per cent in December, confounding City expectations of a rise and persuading the Office of National Statistics to warn the market that it may revise downwards the economic growth figure for the final quarter of 1997.

Analysts said that the manufacturing economy is on the brink of technical recession and that interest rates may well have peaked. Industrial production for the final quarter of 1997 fell 1.1 per cent quarter on quarter, the biggest fall since the second quarter of 1991.

Economists believe that industry has now been squeezed by the five quarter-point base rate rises since Labour came to power on May 1, the continuing strength of the pound and the fall in demand from the Far East.

The December fall in manufacturing output is the fifth successive monthly drop. It followed a 0.4 per cent drop in November that had at first been thought to be steeper than the trend. But economists at HSBC said: "These figures indicate that the manufacturing sector may be on the brink of collapsing back into recession. Accordingly there is a very good chance that base rates have now peaked."

Preliminary figures for fourth quarter economic growth showed quarter-on-quarter growth of 0.5 per cent and a year-on-year rate of 3.1 per cent, and may be revised downwards by 0.1 percentage points, said the ONS.

Nick Vaughan, at Barclays, however, pointed out that the manufacturing sector accounts for only 20 per cent of the economy and that there are pressures coming from wage growth in the service sector. He is still forecasting a further 0.25 per cent tightening in interest rates before there is any easing in monetary policy.

The stockmarket fell 50 points in the wake of the figures but the FTSE 100 index later rose 23.3 points to close at 5629.7, a fresh all-time high and a rise of 171.2 points or 3.1 per cent on the week.

The London market recovered in response to Wall Street, cheered by monthly US job figures which continue to demonstrate healthy economic expansion without much inflation. At midday the Dow Jones industrial average was up 86.19 points at 8,203.44.

ANDRÉ CAMARA



Shining examples: Nadia Visram of Mappin & Webb in Regent Street reflects on the enduring attraction of silver to collectors and investors

# Bullion dealers await Buffett's next move

BY CARL MORTISHED

BULLION traders in the City were shell-shocked yesterday after a frantic week in which the price of silver rose 26 per cent, fixing yesterday afternoon at $7.81 (£4.66) per ounce.

Even the most cynical dealers were unwilling to take a negative view after Berkshire Hathaway, the investment fund run by Warren Buffett, the legendary US investor, disclosed that it had acquired 130 million ounces, equal to 20 per cent of annual supply.

Andy Smith, analyst at UBS, the bank, said: "Mr Buffett now owns as much silver as India takes in a year. You almost have to bite your lip and believe that he has secured his exit. This guy is not a fly-by-night."

Silver is still on the boil as dealers puzzle over where $300 million of silver will be found to deliver to the American fund. So far, Berkshire Hathaway has received 80 million ounces with 40 million still to be delivered. "This is not a deep, liquid market like gold. The central banks don't hold much," explained Mr Smith. The City is puzzled over Mr Buffett's attraction to a commodity with poor fundamental attractions.

Demand recently collapsed in India as the price rose above $5 and many fear a wave of selling. Some noted that the US has a sentimental attachment to silver, akin to the Indian love affair with gold.

Weekend Money, page 64

# Indemnity move by Rock

BY CAROLINE MERRELL

NORTHERN ROCK, the recently floated building society, has followed Halifax's lead and scrapped mortgage indemnity insurance for many of its new borrowers.

The bank is to pay the fee for customers who have at least a 15 per cent deposit. A borrower with a £60,000 loan and a 20 per cent deposit will save £250, while a borrower with a £100,000 loan and 15 per cent deposit will save £765.

Adam Applegarth, Northern Rock executive director, said: "We have for some time offered individual products which carry no mortgage indemnity insurance fee, but this latest move will make our entire product range more attractive."

# Sainsbury misses out on Christmas boom

BY FRASER NELSON

J SAINSBURY missed out in the supermarket spending boom over Christmas and has seen its lowest underlying growth figures for 18 months, it emerged yesterday.

The company, Britain's second-largest food retailer, said like-for-like growth had halved to 2.4 per cent in the 11 weeks to January 10 — less than half the growth achieved by rival Tesco.

Sainsbury shares, which already down 7p per cent since Monday, dropped a further 6p to 484p yesterday while shares of Tesco and Safeway jumped on hopes that they may have muscled in on the slowdown.

The company, which only three months ago forecast a "strong Christmas trading season" said the growth decline had been inevitable once the effect of its loyalty card was ironed out. It softened the figures by forecasting that Sainsbury's bank, already home to £1.4 billion of savings, is likely to become profitable by the end of this year. It is issuing 10,000 new accounts each week, with an average deposit value of £2,300.

Shaw's, its US supermarket chain, continued to pick up with like-for-like sales growth advancing from 1 per cent to 1.7 per cent in the quarter.

The dramatic growth in its Homebase DIY stores continued, with underlying sales 9.8 per cent up. This cheered shares of Kingfisher, owner of B&Q, which added 16p to 987p. Tesco shares added 7¾p to 523p and Safeway gained 8p to 376½p.

Commentary, page 29
Tempus, page 31

# Mirror trustees agree to hand over reports

BY JASON NISSE

TRUSTEES of the Mirror Group Pension Scheme have given up their fight with Julian Farrand, the Pensions Ombudsman, and agreed to hand over reports by the scheme's actuaries to a pensioners lobby group.

The move avoids a legal challenge to the authority of the Ombudsman, who, at one point in the fight with the trustees, had to threaten them with contempt of court because they would not even show him the reports.

The Mirror trustees had argued that to release the actuaries' advice would open up the trustees to an administrative burden so large that many people would be put off becoming trustees.

The battle — revealed in *The Times* on Monday — centres on the reasons why, 18 months ago, the trustees increased payments to Mirror Group employees who retired early.

The Association of Mirror Pensioners, a lobby group set up in the wake of the disappearance of more than £400 million from pension schemes controlled by the late Robert Maxwell, was concerned that the increased payments were being used as an alternative to redundancy from Mirror Group.

Tony Boram, who heads the Association, was told the decision was based on actuaries' advice, so he asked to see their report. When his request was refused he appealed to the Ombudsman, who ordered the Mirror trustees to release the document. The trustees relented after a meeting on Thursday. "We are angry, but we don't want to be the legal guinea pigs," said one.

Commentary, page 29

# A WEEK IN THE CITY

It is not every week that one wakes to a merger of two UK pharmaceuticals giants, let alone one topping £100 billion. So it was with Glaxo Wellcome and SmithKline Beecham (SB), which announced late the previous Friday that they were planning to blend test-tubes. City dealers were champing at the bit when trading began on Monday, sending the FTSE 100 index soaring 157 points in the first 10 minutes.

Some 38 million Glaxo Wellcome shares changed hands, compared with a daily average of three million. Bid speculation centred on Zeneca, the drugs group spun off by Imperial Chemical Industries in 1993. The days that followed brought further excitement, not least the violent chemical reaction triggered by Richard Branson's spectacular libel victory over Guy Snowden, the American lottery tycoon.

Mr Snowden's resignation from Camelot and from GTech, its US lottery partner, was swiftly followed by that of Peter Davis, the lottery regulator, who bowed-out after a showdown with Chris Smith, the Culture Secretary. Mr Branson called for a full inquiry into GTech's role in the National Lottery operator.

Great Universal Stores launched a £1.68 billion hostile bid for Argos, the struggling catalogue retailer, in a move which could create a £4.2 billion catalogue empire. Pacificorp, the American utility, formally relaunched the takeover battle for The Energy Group, with a £4 billion agreed bid. Banks and lawyers are expected to net a record £400 million in fees from the Glaxo Wellcome/SB deal alone.

Gerry Robinson, the "upstart caterer" who runs Granada, suffered a bout of indigestion when shareholders at the annual meeting expressed their distaste at generous boardroom payouts. Directors shared £375,000 — just for seeing their service contracts reduced from three to two years.

Dalgety, the food manufacturing group known to City wags as "Dull and Grotty", announced it was flogging off its main businesses for £835 million. Nestlé is buying the petfoods business, which includes Arthur's and Winalot Prime. This leaves a slimmed-down Dalgety to focus on pig-breeding — undeniably grotty, but rarely dull.

The Inland Revenue was eagerly anticipating £90 million in penalties from taxpayers who missed last weekend's deadline for returning self-assessment forms. More than eight million taxpayers hit the target.

Heading the other way, Barclays announced it was to write off £340 million in restructuring charges following the sale of the bulk of BZW, its investment banking arm.

Finn Johnsson, the Swede who lost out to Jack Keenan of Grand Metropolitan for the top spirits job at Diageo, has been made redundant, and is heading back to Sweden with an £800,000 pay-off.

The Co-op launched a new "divi" scheme, spelling a return to a tradition which died out in the seventies. The FTSE 100 breached the 5,600 level for the first time, taking the market value of the constituent stocks to exactly £1 trillion — or £1,000 billion. City bids are heading the same way.

JON ASHWORTH


INVESTORS CHRONICLE

**New Starters...**
**Top Class Potential**



Sound financial planning is more than a good savings account and some private health insurance. But if that's as far as you've got, you should read this week's Investors Chronicle which includes a special report on Personal Financial Planning for Beginners. We explain a whole range of issues and products that could make a real difference to your finances.

How much should you risk in the hope of greater returns? Where can you get the best advice? Are guaranteed investments better that trust-based products? And when is income better than growth?

We also report on the essentials. From mortgages to pensions and unit trusts to national investment products. We give you our verdict.

**Investors Chronicle complete with Personal Financial Planning for Beginners is on sale Friday 6th February. From your newsagent, price £2.50.**

**www.investorschronicle.co.uk**

FT FINANCIAL TIMES Finance

# Landmark ruling on mortgage penalties

BY GAVIN LUMSDEN

A BELFAST homeowner has won an historic High Court battle that could help to free thousands of borrowers locked into expensive loans.

In a landmark decision, Hugh Murphy, a civil servant and English teacher, has been released from a £50,000 mortgage because the lender tried to impose an exorbitant redemption penalty.

Mr Murphy stopped repaying his home improvement loan when Kindlance, a lender based in North London, advanced him only £41,000. The firm demanded a redemption penalty of £73,000 and threatened to repossess Mr Murphy's home, which he shares with his parents.

In a judgment in December Master Ellison, the judge, said Kindlance's use of "rule 78" to calculate the redemption penalty breached the Unfair Terms in Consumer Contracts Act 1994.

The verdict has significant implications for borrowers, particularly because Kindlance has links to City Mortgage Corporation, the lender that is resisting pressure by the Office of Fair Trading to abandon rule 78 on all its 30,000 loans.

Previous attempts to get a legal judgment have been frustrated by lenders settling out of court. Mr Murphy's achievement is remarkable because he fought the case without legal representation.

Mr Murphy, 38, who has no legal expertise, said: "I thought I had a legitimate case. I didn't see the need to employ an expensive solicitor. By representing myself I think I got under their radar."

CMC denied the decision set a precedent as it had not been given by a senior judge. However, solicitors for the CMC Victims Association said the verdict carried significant legal and moral weight.

Yesterday Kindlance agreed a settlement figure of £56,000 after Mr Murphy threatened to pursue the case and have the entire mortgage declared extortionate. Kindlance had levied dual interest rates — which leapt from 10.1 per cent to 22.2 per cent when Mr Murphy stopped paying — a practice which was also banned by the OFT last July. Kindlance's loans are serviced by City Mortgage Servicing, a subsidiary of CMC.

MICHELLE WILLIAMS




Donald Trump's announcement that he is looking for contenders to buy his hotel and casino empire boosted the shares

# Trump in quest for $1bn buyer

FROM OLIVER AUGUST IN NEW YORK

DONALD TRUMP, the flamboyant US property developer, is looking for a buyer for his hotel and casino empire. He has hired Donaldson, Lufkin & Jenrette and Bear Stearns to solicit bids for Trump Hotel & Casino, aiming to make about $1 billion (£600 million).

Mr Trump's sudden rush to the exit seems to have been prompted by the current upturn in the US hotels and casino sector and the voracious appetite of real estate investment trusts to buy large leisure companies. The controversial mogul, who only narrowly escaped financial collapse in the early 1990s, has not revealed what venture he may turn to after a sale.

He recently published a business strategy book after a messy and expensive separation from his wife Marla Maples, for whom he had left his previous wife Ivana.

The Trump group manages some of the most overdesigned (or tacky, according to taste) buildings on America's East Coast, including Trump Plaza, Trump Marina and the Taj Mahal in Atlantic City, the gambling resort.

Trump shares rose 20 per cent yesterday to $12. Mr Trump hopes to get up to $28 a share, a price that some analysts call "not just unrealistic but typical Trump".

Bruce Turner, at Salomon Smith Barney, restated his sell recommendation for Trump only hours after yesterday's announcement. His target price for the shares is $4. Mr Trump's appetite for a sale was apparently whetted by last month's sale of Stations Casino in Las Vegas for £1.7 billion to a real estate investment trust.

Late last year, ITT, the group that includes the Sheraton Hotels, was bought by a trust for $12 billion. Analysts said Mr Trump has always found it difficult to look on while others got a better deal — both in business and in his colourful private life.

# Virgin Direct flies financial services kite

VIRGIN DIRECT, Richard Branson's financial services division, is lobbying the Government to introduce a system of kitemarking for financial products. It is also approaching consumer organisations and other of the newer entrants in to the financial services arena, such as Direct Line, Sainsbury's and Tesco, to establish the kitemarking standard. In a letter to Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, Mr Branson said: "A kitemark awarded to those products that are free of any hidden nasties such as hidden charges and inflexibility will be the biggest and easiest step to radically improve consumer confidence." Direct Line and Tesco are in favour of the campaign.

The drive for kitemarking comes as final proposals for individual savings accounts (Isas), the replacement for personal equity plans (Peps) and tax-exempt special savings accounts (Tessas), and stakeholder pensions are drawn up. Virgin's kitemarking plan focuses on charges, commission and flexibility. The drive is bound to antagonise the traditional product providers, because many produce products that are expensive and pay high rates of commission to middlemen.

## Texas in more talks

TEXAS UTILITIES confirmed yesterday that Jarrett Gibbs, its vice-chairman, is in London for further talks on a possible bid for The Energy Group. The US power company said Mr Gibbs was scheduled to meet MPs and regulators during his visit. There has been speculation about whether Texas Utilities would continue to pursue its interest in Energy, which earlier this week announced a deal to be acquired by PacifiCorp for £4 billion. Under that deal PacifiCorp would also assume £2.5 billion in Energy Group debt.

## Bid talks lift Clayhithe

SHARES in Clayhithe, the electronic equipment group, rose from 76½p to 92½p after the group said that it was in bid talks. Clayhithe said it has noted the recent rise in the share price and confirmed that it is in discussions which may or may not lead to an offer for the whole of the issued share capital of the company at "a significant premium" to the current share price. A further announcement was promised as discussions are concluded. At yesterday's closing price Clayhithe was worth £18.8 million.

## New station approved

MORE than four million radio listeners will be able to tune to a new radio station in September after it won a regional licence for the North West of England. Boss FM, owned by Border Television, will broadcast personality radio and 24-hour news to the region, including south Cumbria. The Radio Authority said it was the largest licence awarded outside London. Boss FM will boost Border Radio Holdings' position in the North, building on the coverage of its Century Radio station in the North East.

## Bodycote buys TI plant

BODYCOTE, the engineering company, bought a heat treatment and metal joining business from TI Group, its larger rival, paying £15.1 million cash. The deal comes after the company was criticised for raising nearly £100 million last year through a rights issue, and then spending only £61 million. The business bought by Bodycote is Thermal Processing Group, leader in a number of niche metallurgical markets. Shares in Bodycote rose 2½p to 980p, while shares in TI Group rose 1½p to 468p.

## Recovery for Whinney

SHARES in Whinney Mackay-Lewis, the architect, were suspended as the group revealed £6 million of acquisitions for shares, a £1 million placing at 30p a share, and a £17,000 profit for the six months to October 31, a turnround from the previous £93,000 loss. The group is to transfer to an AIM listing after its £4 million acquisition of Prime, the property manager, and the £2 million acquisition of M&E, the mechanical and electrical consultants. Again there is no dividend at Whinney, which is to be renamed WML. The shares were suspended at 29½p.

## Shire back in the black

SHIRE PHARMACEUTICALS turned pre-tax profits round to £2.5 million in the six months to December 31 from a £105,000 loss in the previous first half. Sales were boosted to £28.6 million from £9.9 million by acquisitions. The tax charge wiped out pre-tax profits, however, leaving losses per share of 0.3p, worse than the 0.2p loss previously. Shire shares fell from 359p to 340½p. Rolf Stahel, chief executive, said: "The recent product portfolio review has identified opportunities for future synergies across the group."

## Serco to buy Tecnodata

SERCO, the business support services group, is to acquire Tecnodata, the Rome and Brussels computer and communications support services group, for £9.2 million. Tecnodata has virtually no net assets but sales of £7 million and pre-tax profits of £300,000. Serco said the acquisition complements its current business with the European Space Agency and extends the business base into the European Commission. Serco shares slipped by 4½p to £10.72 after the announcement.

## Hammerson shops deal

HAMMERSON, the property group, has signed a £250 million joint venture with Barclays to develop the West Quay shopping centre in Southampton. Hammerson will own 50 per cent of the 70,600 sq metre centre and be responsible for overall project and asset management. Robert McAlpine has been appointed contractor. Construction will begin next month and is due to be completed by autumn 2000. Retailers will include John Lewis Partnership and Marks & Spencer. Tempus, page 31

## Prudential backs bank with £25m injection

BY MARIANNE CURPHEY

DIRECT banking received further endorsement yesterday when Prudential Corporation announced that it is giving its own bank a £25 million boost and creating 1,500 jobs.

Banking by post and telephone has grown beyond all expectations in the past few years at the expense of branch-based operations. Prudential, which set up its direct bank in October 1996, yesterday unveiled plans to build a new telephone call centre on a 16-acre site in Derby.

The jobs will be created over the four years and the local council is providing a training grant. Prudential Bank already employees 600 people in Dudley and London.

Meanwhile, Standard Life, which launched its own bank at the beginning of this year, revealed that it had handled 65,000 calls, opened 25,000 new accounts and had pledges of £165 million in cash. Jim Spowart, director of the bank, said: "There is no doubt at all that we are attracting money away from the coffers of the high street banks and building societies."

Standard Life also announced that it plans to offer notice accounts and savings accounts for business customers by the end of this year.

Mike Harris, chief executive of Prudential Banking, said: "As our bank develops into a major player in the direct market, I am confident that we can continue to develop employment opportunities in Derby, building on the initial announcement of an investment of £25 million and up to 1,500 jobs."

The plans were backed by local MPs, including Margaret Beckett, President of the Board of Trade, who represents Derby South. Sir Peter Davis, group chief executive of Prudential, is head of the Government's Welfare to Work programme.

## Nomura hopes to report £490m profit

JUNICHI UJIE, the president and chief executive of Nomura Securities told a London presentation yesterday that he expected group pre-tax profits of 100 billion yen (£490 million) for 1997-98 (George Sivell writes).

Nomura, Japan's largest brokerage, last month reported a group profit of 65 billion yen for April to December 1997, but it reported a pre-tax loss of 198 billion yen for 1996-97 after a profit of 151 billion yen the previous year. Yamaichi, Japan's number four brokerage, recently had to be wound up.

Commentary, page 29

| | Bank Buys | Bank Sells |
|---|---|---|
| Australia $ | 2.57 | 2.39 |
| Austria Sch | 21.80 | 20.14 |
| Belgium Fr | 64.20 | 59.24 |
| Canada $ | 2.462 | 2.284 |
| Cyprus Cypf. | 0.913 | 0.841 |
| Denmark Kr | 11.85 | 10.96 |
| Finland Mkk | 8.51 | 8.78 |
| France Fr | 10.37 | 9.59 |
| Germany Dm | 3.12 | 2.88 |
| Greece Dr | 494 | 456 |
| Hong Kong $ | 13.80 | 12.40 |
| Iceland | 131 | 111 |
| Ireland Pt | 1.23 | 1.15 |
| Israel Shk | 6.90 | 5.55 |
| Italy Lira | 3095 | 2858 |
| Japan Yen | 218.48 | 201.90 |
| Malta | 0.682 | 0.623 |
| Netherlds Gld | 3.523 | 3.228 |
| New Zealand $ | 2.89 | 2.75 |
| Norway Kr | 12.92 | 11.98 |
| Portugal Esc | 315.03 | 293.00 |
| S Africa Rd | 8.76 | 7.82 |
| Spain Pta | 261.79 | 243.00 |
| Sweden Kr | 14.03 | 12.93 |
| Switzerland Fr | 2.54 | 2.32 |
| Turkey Lira | 369943 | 350065 |
| USA $ | 1.757 | 1.614 |

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to traveller's cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

THE SUNDAY TIMES

**SILVER MINEFIELD**

'Buffett's efforts to generate above-market returns for his investors may be leading him into areas about which he knows little . . .'

*Will Warren Buffett's foray into the silver market resemble that of the Bunker Hunt family? Business, The Sunday Times tomorrow*

As a Fidelity Brokerage customer, you do have a choice.

Picking the best home for your investments is a delicate matter. You'll look at various options, and no doubt find pros and cons with them all. Here at Charles Schwab, we would like to take this opportunity to tell you a little about ourselves. After you've read this, you can call our dedicated Transfer Team who will answer any questions you've got, as well as send you information on our products and services. After that, the choice, as we said, is yours.

As the world's largest execution-only stockbroker we have over 20 years broking experience behind us, handling the investments of over five million customers worldwide. Our Self-Select PEPs and range of trading accounts are well recognised within the industry; so much so that we have been voted best execution-only 'Stockbroker of the Year' '95, '96 and '97.

We have also recently expanded our call centre, and have just introduced TouchTone Trader to the UK. This new service, unique to Charles Schwab, allows you to buy and sell over the phone at the touch of a button.

We would also like to assure you that if you do decide to transfer your investments to us, our Transfer Team will make the process as simple and as quick as possible. Call them now on 0121 236 6363.

Charles Schwab
Helping Investors Help Themselves®

Call 0121 236 6363 to speak to our dedicated Transfer Team.

CHARLES SCHWAB IS A MEMBER FIRM OF THE LONDON STOCK EXCHANGE AND IDEAL, AN INLAND REVENUE APPROVED PEP MANAGER AND IS REGULATED BY THE SECURITIES AND FUTURES AUTHORITIES. THE INVESTMENT SERVICES REFERRED TO IN THIS ADVERTISEMENT MAY NOT BE SUITABLE FOR ALL RECIPIENTS. IF YOU NEED ADVICE, YOU SHOULD CONSULT AN APPROPRIATE FINANCIAL ADVISER.

# Darling out of love with Exchange

## COMMENTARY
by our City Editor

Four months into a new era for the Stock Exchange and the system is still creaking. Yesterday morning a rogue trade in Barclays shares worth a mere £88,500 knocked £2.4 billion off the market capitalisation of one of Britain's largest financial institutions. How come? At 8.47am, soon after the market opened, someone appeared to sell 5,000 shares at £17.70 each, 160p lower than Thursday's closing price. The new Sets system reacts to the latest trade, however small, and sent Barclays into a tailspin, knocking 8.3 per cent off its market capitalisation. The Stock Exchange's surveillance department leapt into action, the rogue trader was found and the trade cancelled 49 minutes later.

So, success for the Stock Exchange? Well, not exactly. Though the mistake was rectified and no substantial business was mispriced, there is a chance that some small investors might have traded in error. The fault lies, perhaps, with the users of the new order-based system, some of whom have not got the hang of it despite four months of trying. But the Exchange considers that Sets appears overly sensitive to small trades and not particularly fault-tolerant. Nobody wants a Big Brother protecting professional investors from their mistakes. But if the Exchange has one overriding function, it is to ensure an orderly market for everyone — whether you are Mercury Asset Management or Mrs Bloggs from Tunbridge Wells. And on yesterday's evidence this was not achieved.

It was a rather bad day for a foul-up like this to happen, as Alistair Darling, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, was just clearing his throat ahead of a rather momentous attack on the Exchange. Addressing the Securities Institute in his home town of Edinburgh, Mr Darling argued that increasing globalisation and deregulation of financial markets may have left the Exchange flat-footed. Firms can turn in many different directions to raise money. They can go to the bond markets or the more entrepreneurial exchanges such as Nasdaq in the US or the nascent Easdaq in Brussels. They can even avoid exchanges altogether, raising money from private listings or venture capitalists. And given annual costs of more than £500,000 to maintain a main listing, and £300,000 to be traded on AIM, as well as the appalling lack of liquidity suffered by smaller stocks, this is an increasingly attractive option. Mr Darling argues that there is no reason why the Financial Services Authority cannot do at least as good a job as the Exchange. Accordingly, as he also told Parliament in a written answer yesterday, the law will be amended so the Exchange does not have to be the sole place to list shares in the UK.

Of course there are some who will latch on to the fact that Mr Darling did not remove the Exchange's sole *raison d'être*. But he has put in place the mechanism for just such drastic action. The Exchange will have to respond to this challenge or all that will remain is an empty building in the heart of the City.

### Banks' rivals are still puny

Banking is changing fast. But it will have to change even faster to make much inroads into the vast returns banks are now earning.

Challenges are coming from all angles. Life assurers have one easy way to build up deposits fast in new banking businesses. Their customers are due billions each year from maturing pension and endowment policies, the proceeds of which can be tempted into in-house banks.

Standard Life Bank took in more than £100 million in its first fortnight. The surprise was that quite a lot came from consumers surfing the street for a good interest rate. The Prudential had amassed nearly three times as much by June and is further ahead now, judging by its plans to double its call centre capacity.

Even the Pru is still way behind J Sainsbury, the banking leader among the supermarkets, whose deposits now top £1.4 billion. Most are in the market, but always in partnership with high street banks. Bank of Scotland is backing Sainsbury, but it can work the other way with, for instance, Lloyds TSB renting space in Asda stores.

So far, retailers chiefly offer distribution outlets. This might change if individual savings accounts and stakeholder pensions develop as ministers dream, but the wise are chary of committing themselves to a full range of financial services.

Insurance companies have a stronger incentive. Banks have marched their tanks onto the insurers lawns, creating their own captive bancassurance companies. Insurers need to fight back. It is also easier for them to set up low-cost telephone banks and use good deposit rates to win floating money.

We have been here before. Do you remember when building societies were going to threaten banks' high profits and drive them out of the high street? Instead, they demutualised, raising their cost base to levels near to the job-shredding banks.

By comparison, the threat from supermarkets and insurers still looks puny. Sainsbury would have to grow its deposits 25 fold to rival Bank of Scotland. Significantly, the Prudential has chosen to offer relatively low interest rates, cementing its tradition of offering a solid name rather than value.

If information technology ever transforms banking into a truly competitive market, you will soon know. High margins and extravagant retail banking profits will tumble. City parlours do not seem to be trembling over the threat just yet.

### Open house for pensions

If Robert Maxwell was still alive, the lawyers would be licking their lips at the prospect of a long legal battle with the authorities and the pensioners. As it is, the Mirror Group pension trustees backed off from a court challenge to the authority of Julian Farrand, the Pensions Ombudsman, over whether they should let the pensioners see what the paid professionals say should be done with the fund.

As there was no legal ruling, there is no precedent set. But the spat between the Mirror and its pensioners is sure to spark all sorts of demands by the people who expect to benefit from pension funds for more information about how their schemes are actualy run. And eventually the courts will be forced to rule, no doubt in Dr Farrand's, and the pensioners', favour.

Trustees, most of whom are not paid for their work, will shudder at this prospect. More administration, they yelp. More questioning of our decisions. And an increasing likelihood that there will be legal action for getting things wrong. Therefore fewer people will want to be trustees of pension funds.

Against this you have to weigh the issue of transparency. So often management trustees, backed up by greater access to information, are able to steamroller decisions through. Employees and pensioners increasingly need to know why the trustees of their future livelihood decide what they do — especially when they re-employ PDFM and Gartmore as fund managers.

### Back in business

JUNICHI UJIIE was in town yesterday. The man with the unenviable task of rebuilding the reputation of Nomura Securities after the racketeering scandals of the past few years was in ebullient form. He said the group had rebuilt its reputation, was ready to face competition from the US houses and would make 100 billion yen — about £490 million — in profits this year. Not bad for a supposedly tarnished broker in a supposedly declining economy.

## GEC to sell Marconi to US group in £65m deal

By Adam Jones

GEC is selling Marconi Instruments, which makes electronic testing and measurement equipment, for £65 million as part of its restructuring.

The sale, to IFR Systems of the US, is the fifth in a series of disposals of non-core businesses from the industrial group, as GEC refocuses on defence and electronics.

The previous four disposals were distribution and trading companies in Australia, New Zealand and Ireland, and an air chartering business called Magec Aviation. They raised about £100 million.

The GEC Plessey semiconductors business is still to be sold, and a GEC spokesman said the company was confident that disposals will have netted the target sum of £300 million by the end of March.

Marconi Instruments made pre-tax profits of £4.5 million on turnover of £65.9 million in the year to March 31, 1997. Net assets were £26.8 million at September 30, 1997.

As well as the UK operation, the sale includes subsidiaries in France, Spain and Germany, as well as Marconi Instruments Inc in the US.

GEC is looking at acquisitions in defence and electronics, particularly in the US.

## Biocompatibles shares plummet as chief resigns

By Kathy Lipari

ALISTAIR TAYLOR, the president and chief executive of Biocompatibles International, the biotechnology company, was asked to stand down yesterday. The company also revealed that it may have to seek interim funding while negotiations with potential partners continue.

The news sent Biocompatibles shares crashing 160p, or 42.7 per cent, to 215p. In mid-1997 the shares were worth £14.20, valuing the company at more than £1 billion before the collapse of a deal with Johnson & Johnson, the US group.

Biocompatibles gave warning in December that problems with securing a commercial partner to help to distribute and market its stents, a miniature device used to hold open blood vessels, were affecting sales.

It suggested at the time that its second-half losses would exceed the £11.4 million it lost in the six months to June.

Yesterday the group said discussions with potential partners were continuing but the company was also reviewing the options for independent distribution of stents in some markets.



Taylor: did "a fine job"

If the company is unable to secure a deal soon, it may be forced to seek interim funding from shareholders. Exactly how much money this would involve or when it may take place was not known.

Jeremy Curnock Cook, chairman, said Biocompatibles did not want to rush into an arrangement that was not in the best interests of the company for the long term and was in the process of evaluating all its options.

A new management committee chaired by Mr Curnock Cook has been set up to steer the group and oversee the negotiations until a new chief executive is found.

Julian Steadman, finance director, said: "The board has acknowledged that Alistair has done a fine job but with the direction the company is moving in we are now looking for someone with a different set of skills."

Mr Taylor's resignation follows a series of management changes recently at Biocompatibles. Despite the upheaval, Biocompatibles said it remained confident about the future potential of its technologies after recent encouraging regulatory and clinical developments involving its PC coating products.

This is the second big setback for the biotechnology sector this week. On Thursday shares of British Biotech fell sharply after the company revealed that regulatory approval for Zacutex, its acute pancreatitis treatment, had been delayed. The shares fell 41p to 92p, having traded as high as 326p in 1996.

## Job service and Capital Radio link

By Raymond Snoddy
Media Editor

CAPITAL RADIO will next week unveil a marketing alliance with PeopleBank, the Internet recruitment service. It is the commercial radio group's first big push into London's classified job-advertising market, dominated by the *Evening Standard*, part of Associated Newspapers.

PeopleBank was set up in 1996 to use computer technology to cut out "middlemen", such as newspapers and job agencies, and deal directly with jobseekers and employers.

Associated took a majority stake in PeopleBank, but lost interest in it, and a management buyout left Associated with just a 30 per cent stake.

Now, Capital is to carry slots for PeopleBank on top radio shows and will receive a share of the earnings generated.

Tempus, page 31

## Former chief sues Taylor Woodrow

By Chris Ayres

JOHN CASTLE, the former chief executive of Taylor Woodrow, is suing the construction group for "substantially in excess of £500,000" over breach of contract and wrongful dismissal.

The writ states that Mr Castle was employed by Taylor Woodrow for only six months between April and October last year before being called into a meeting and fired — allegedly against the terms of his contract.

At the time, the company said that Mr Castle had chosen to resign from his £225,000 position because of his "fundamental incompatibility" with the board. Mr Castle was believed to be the first outsider to hold a top position in the group.

The writ goes on to say that Mr Castle was "was given an assurance that he would receive a large sum of compensation if he signed his resignation". It adds that he has not received any compensation, salary or benefits, apart from the use of his company car, a Jaguar Sovereign, since October.

Ronnie Fox, of Fox Williams, the City solicitor acting for Mr Castle, said he hoped that Taylor Woodrow would settle the dispute out of court. He added that Mr Castle had not yet found another full-time job. "Going anywhere for six months and then leaving affects your job prospects," said Mr Fox.

A spokesman for Taylor Woodrow last night said: "We are aware that the writ has been served; we see it largely as a procedural matter. It will receive attention in the light of further advice that we will be taking shortly."

## Two Beatty divisions join forces

By Adam Jones

BALFOUR BEATTY, the engineering and construction arm of BICC, is merging two divisions to improve its ability to win and handle major projects.

Balfour Beatty Civil Engineering, responsible for UK projects such as the Jubilee Line extension, and Balfour Beatty International, which handles overseas contracts such as the Pergau Dam, will be absorbed into a single organisation. Balfour Beatty International, with a turnover of more than £500 million.

A BICC spokesman said the move was necessary because the art of winning and completing major contracts is becoming increasingly specialised, requiring a centralised pool of skills. Job cuts are likely and staffing levels will be finalised in early March.


Why pay more for Self-Select PEPs?

If you buy and sell shares regularly, you will know the value of setting up a Self-Select PEP, to benefit from tax-free income and growth.

The NatWest Shareplan General PEP and Single Company PEP are two ideal vehicles to help you do just that. Our Shareplan PEP is particularly useful if you want to build your own portfolio from a range of shares, investment trusts and corporate bonds.

Both PEPs offer considerable benefits: you can give 'buy and sell' instructions by phone, and you'll enjoy a full reporting service.

You'll also have the option to draw income from your PEP, on a quarterly basis.

Call 0171 895 5600 for details
The PEP Helpline
8am - 6pm, Monday to Saturday

What's more with a half-yearly Management Fee of just 0.3%, capped at £100 plus VAT, and dealing charges at 1.5% (minimum £15 - maximum £150)* we think you'll find our PEPs are very attractive.

NatWest
More than just a bank

*Stamp Duty is payable on purchases. The value of investments, and the income from them, can go down as well as up, and you may not recover the amount of your original investment. We may monitor/record your phone calls with us in order to maintain and improve our service. Tax reliefs referred to are those applying under current legislation, which may change, and their availability and value will depend on your individual circumstances. It should be noted that the Government has announced plans to replace PEPs (and TESSAs) with Individual Savings Accounts (ISAs) with effect from April 1999. National Westminster Bank Plc is regulated by the Personal Investment Authority and IMRO for investment business. National Westminster Bank Plc. Registered Office: 41 Lothbury, London EC2P 2BP. Registered Number 929027, England. Ref No. 15030


## Milk price cut helps shares in dairies

By Carl Mortished

SHARE prices in the dairy industry jumped as Milk Marque, the liquid milk marketing company, announced that it had cut the price of milk after failing to receive sufficient bids after a second attempt.

Milk Marque's failed auction will increase the pressure on the Government to intervene to further liberalise the sale and distribution of milk which is currently being investigated by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. Milk Marque said yesterday that its January auction would go to a third round and indicated that the price for the cheapest litre of milk would fall to 19.4p, 0.4p below the second auction attempt and 1p down on the first round earlier last month.

Big milk buyers such as Unigate, Northern Foods and Dairy Crest, saw their share prices rise yesterday in the expectation that lower milk prices would boost the gross margin on a doorstep pint of milk. Margins have improved despite falling sales due to overproduction and the steady fall in price.

Milk Marque, which acts on behalf of farmers, controls about half of the 11.5 billion litres of milk produced in England and Wales. David Yeomans, its chief executive, said yesterday: "We are disappointed that dropping prices for round two had so little effect on apparent demand. We are therefore reducing our prices again in order to achieve a market balance."

Tempus, page 31


AN EXCLUSIVE OFFER THE TIMES

Save up to 50% on flights with Air France




78 DESTINATIONS TO CHOOSE FROM

- Departures from London Heathrow, Manchester, Birmingham, Southampton, Glasgow, Edinburgh or Newcastle
- No surcharges from regional airports
- No other compulsory purchase required
- All fares include airport taxes*
- Fares start from £69 per person
- Travel from March 2 to August 20 1998**

*Pre-charged airport and security taxes
**Long haul flights between March 2 and June 6, 1998. Caribbean between May 1 and June 6, 1998. No travel permitted between April 1-19, 1998

Leisure Direction

This is the last day for collecting a token for *The Times*/Air France, worldwide flights offer. Readers have the chance to save up to 50 per cent, travelling Economy Class to any of 78 destinations, as long as you include a Saturday night in your stay.

The full terms and conditions were published in *The Times* on Jan 26 and 30 and *The Sunday Times* on Feb 1, 1998.

HOW TO APPLY
Send **eight** differently numbered tokens from *The Times* and **one** token from *The Sunday Times*, which was published in the travel section on Feb 1, 1998, with the completed application form, right, to arrive by Feb 20, 1998.

You will receive an information pack with full booking instructions and your flight voucher within 14 days. No bookings for these special offers will be processed without this flight voucher.

AIR FRANCE FLIGHT TICKETS APPLICATION FORM

To get your *Times*/Air France information pack, attach eight differently numbered tokens from *The Times* and one token from *The Sunday Times* to this completed application form. Then send it to: *The Times*/Air France, PO Box 3000, Newcastle upon Tyne X, NE85 2BU, to arrive no later than Friday, February 20, 1998. Please allow 14 days for delivery of your promotional pack.

Title ..... Initials ..... Surname .....

Address .....

.....

Postcode ..... Daytime tel .....

1. On which days do you usually buy *The Times*?
Monday ☐ Tuesday ☐ Wednesday ☐ Thursday ☐
Friday ☐ Saturday ☐ Don't usually buy *The Times* ☐

2. Which other national daily newspaper(s) do you buy at least once a week?

3. Which national Sunday newspaper(s) do you buy almost always (3-4 copies per month)?

4. Which national Sunday newspaper(s) do you buy quite often (1-2 copies per month)?

If you would prefer not to receive information and offers from organisations carefully selected by The Times, please tick ☐

THE TIMES AIR FRANCE
TOKEN 12

CHANGING TIMES

# Future tense for the exchange built on the human factor

## An outcry over electronic trading is growing, but what does it signal for Liffe? **Chris Ayres** finds out

There are few places in the world where you can give a Nazi salute while dressed in a *Hi-de-hi* uniform without being beaten up.

One of those places is Liffe, the boisterous London International Financial Futures Exchange, where traders wear lurid jackets to tell each other apart, and communicate using several hundred complex hand signals.

The mock Nazi salutes — used by traders as sign language for Deutsche Bank — will be accepted with particularly good humour by the Germans this week. After all, they are still basking in the success of the Deutsche Termin Börse, their rival exchange in Frankfurt, which has finally overtaken Liffe as market leader for the trade of German bond futures.

The triumph of the DTB comes as the future looks decidedly uncertain for 15-year-old Liffe. On the Continent, the apparent anarchy of 2,000 traders all shouting and waving their arms at each other — known as the "open outcry" system — has been replaced by the cold efficiency of computerised dealing.

"For the moment electronic systems such as the DTB are much cheaper for clients, up to 50 per cent in some cases because of overheads," says one leading UK broker. "They're also attractive because of the speed of executions. For long-term bonds, Liffe has already been overtaken by the DTB."

Understandably, Liffe traders fear that, if they fail to demonstrate the subtle benefits of their eccentric profession, the world's biggest financial institutions will soon start doing their deals elsewhere. The emergence of electronic rivals comes at a crucial time for the exchange, as it fights to control the European futures and options market before economic and monetary union next January.

The trading of financial futures emerged in the 1970s, mainly at exchanges in Chicago. A future is, very basically, a contract that guarantees the delivery of a certain product at a fixed time and a fixed price. One Liffe trader describes it as being similar to signing an agreement with a car dealer to deliver a Lada in two months' time for, say, £5,000.

If the price of cars suddenly shoots up, a contract that guarantees the delivery of a Lada in two months' time at a fixed price will increase in value. It can then be traded for a profit. However, at Liffe, contracts are mainly for the delivery of currency or stock, or the right to hold money at a certain rate of interest.

Although Liffe is now one of the pillars of the City establishment, alongside the Bank of England, the Stock Exchange and Lloyd's, it was at first treated with suspicion. Traditional City types saw futures trading as nothing more than a vulgar form of betting, rather than a way of hedging against future risk.

However, Liffe has turned out to be a success, attracting enormous amounts of money and prestige to the City of London. The exchange is now the third largest of its kind, behind the Chicago Board of Trade and the Chicago Mercantile Exchange.

The inside of Liffe, in Cannon Street, looks like a giant, space-age cattle market. The trading area — the size of three or four indoor tennis courts — is surrounded by what looks like a grandstand, above which loom several huge airport-style screens.

The trading floor is divided into a number of pits: holes in the ground surrounded by metal railings and littered with discarded trading forms. Each pit is used to trade a different kind of contract, with trading outside the pits forbidden. Above the pits are yet more banks of television screens, each one constantly spewing out market information.

The trading is organised something like this: brokers sit in the grandstand, watching market information on the screens, and taking telephone orders from their clients. They use hand signals to give orders to traders inside the pits, who then try to get the best deal from other traders. A note of each transaction is made in traders' order books.



Trading places: Chris Ayres at Liffe, where hand signals and lurid jackets abound

The average age of a trader is just 24: most of them work for large banks, and can be identified by the patterns of their technicolour coats and their jumbo-sized identification badges. Other traders are "locals" — which means they trade with their own money for their own gain.

Locals, who dress in red coats, are perhaps the most fascinating characters at Liffe. Some are former institutional traders, and others are former pit observers who feel that they can play the market for themselves. Most try to keep a low profile, although it is well known that a former Premiership football player and a former Hollywood actor occasionally work the trading floor.

Outside City bars, most traders refuse to talk about what they earn. However, rapidly intensifying competition from abroad has recently brought hefty cuts in commission. The earnings of locals are even more difficult to estimate. Some are multi-millionaires: others are in crippling debt.

The advantages of the open outcry system are pointed out by Wayne Hick, who trains traders at Liffe. The first is that it is extremely open, and it is therefore difficult to make unfair or unscrupulous deals. All traders have to pass exams to work in the pit, and are constantly watched by pit observers and CCTV cameras.

This openness brings other benefits. "Basically, you can see who is doing what," says Ed Condon, director of European Listed Derivatives for Credit Suisse First Boston. "In some markets, that information is still incredibly important. There are some very unique strategies going on, so people learn from each other and copy each other. You can't do that on a screen."

Liffe is therefore ideal for traders who want to make complex deals — such as buying a series of short-term contracts over a long period — rather than just buying straightforward long-term bonds. "In a pit, you can negotiate simultaneously, as a package," says Mr Condon. "With the DTB, you need five guys with five screens all pressing a button at the same time."

Liffe traders are similarly enthusiastic about the input of the human factor. "Humans have discretion and can work orders," says one. "Clients can say to traders, buy at 20, but if you have to, buy at 21. So a trader would buy as much of an order as possible at 20 and the rest at 21. You couldn't do that with a computer."

The presence of locals is also an important element of Liffe. They provide market liquidity by constantly making small deals, matching buyers with sellers, and keeping the market stable. Also, if there are a large number of orders for a limited amount of contracts, pit etiquette dictates that they are distributed evenly between buyers. Under a computerised system, all the orders would simply go to the first buyer.

In spite of these factors, it is obvious that electronic systems are more suitable for certain kinds of trades. "For black and white contracts, the market is saying it prefers electronic trading, because decisions are very straightforward: it's either buy or sell," says Mr Condon.

"DTB is also transparent, because you can see exactly what is being bid and offered. In Liffe, savvy traders can size up the pit, but you don't know the price until you ask."

Many in the City believe that Liffe would be wise to recognise that there is room for both electronic and open outcry trading. "People are saying that open outcry is better full stop or that electronic trading is better full stop, but neither opinion is right," says one trader. "The two exchanges have to come to some kind of agreement rather than end up burying each other alive."

The most obvious solution would be some form of joint venture or merger between Liffe and the DTB. This is a strategy that the DTB is thought to have considered at some length. When the German exchange held a party in London before Christmas, it is rumoured that the DTB hired two scantily clad female dancers, joined by a giant plastic umbilical cord, to parade around the room. One had an electronic screen strapped to her chest — the other did not. The symbolism was rather heavy-handed.

Mr Condon says: "I think some kind of pan-European exchange, a hybrid of electronic and open outcry trading, would be the best strategy. They could spend their fees on providing better services. Instead, Liffe is collecting a war chest to build a new exchange floor when it might not even have anything to trade on it."

FIDELITY BROKERAGE CUSTOMERS

Keep on trading with Barclays Stockbrokers.

Following a strategic review, Fidelity Brokerage will cease offering execution-only stockbroking services to its UK customers.

We'd like to take this opportunity to thank all our customers with whom we have done business over the last 10 years. You are not forgotten. Far from it.

We want to ensure that, although we're about to cease trading, there's no reason for you to.

Not even for a minute.

That's why we've made a unique agreement for you with Barclays Stockbrokers Limited (BSL), the UK's largest Execution-Only Retail Stockbroker and one of the largest providers of self-select General and Single Company PEPs. If you transfer your account to BSL you can continue to trade without interruption.

We've set up a dedicated team so you can keep on trading, if you choose to transfer to BSL.

And special plans are being put into place to ensure that, subject to satisfying BSL's normal acceptance criteria, your account can enjoy a smooth and efficient transfer over the next few months.

You will receive a letter this week giving more details of the arrangements. In the meantime, if you have any queries please feel free to call us on 0800 222180.

Fidelity Brokerage

TMRN

This advertisement is issued by Fidelity Brokerage Services, member of the London Stock Exchange and regulated by the SFA for the conduct of investment business in the UK. Fidelity Brokerage Services is an execution-only broker and does not give advice.

# Branson turns up heat on Camelot chief

Not one but three seats were engulfed in flames this week. Two of them are now empty, and the third, occupied by Tim Holley, the Camelot chief executive, is beginning to smoulder. Richard Branson, having won his fiery libel clash — in which he alleged an attempt to bribe him by Guy Snowden, co-founder of GTech, the US lottery concern — delighted in exacting vengeance for his failure to win the National Lottery licence three years ago. He has not finished yet.

Mr Branson's avenging drive began on the steps of the High Court, which awarded him £100,000 in libel damages, and from which he emerged with ammunition to attack the entire fabric of the National Lottery. Mr Branson was not best pleased to lose to Camelot in 1994, and wasted little time in claiming the scalps of those he held responsible — Peter Davis, the lottery regulator, and Guy Snowden.

And so the trail leads to Tim Holley, remembered for being snapped snoozing in a deckchair in St James's Park two summers ago. The other image he has struggled to shrug off is that of the archetypal fat-cat executive, a sin made worse by the charitable *raison d'être* of the National Lottery. The £2.5 million mock-Georgian mansion in Richmond didn't help either.

In 1996, he was portrayed in a tabloid newspaper as a pig, its mouth crammed with cash, under the headline "Licensed to swill". Last year things got worse when huge bonuses to Camelot directors were leaked to the press, prompting *The Mirror*'s Lenny Lottery to brand the company Grabalot.

In the ensuing furore, Chris Smith, the Culture, Media and Sport Secretary, declared: "The National Lottery is for prize-winners and good causes, not for profiteers." Mr Smith's anger, though well-intentioned, was ill-judged because Camelot's annual report stated clearly that directors could earn up to half as much again as their base salaries in bonuses.

Although it cut little ice with the lottery-playing public, Mr Holley's threat to resign if he and his colleagues were not allowed to keep the bonuses was a brave decision. In the end, last-minute negotiations led to them agreeing to give part of future bonuses to charity, but Mr Holley's standing among his staff — already high — was enhanced. "He really shows his mettle in a crisis, and leads from the front," says a former colleague.

The seeds of these leadership qualities can be found when, aged 19, the death of his father left him as the family's main breadwinner. Suddenly his job with Barclays' international arm, taken principally to finance his yearning for foreign travel, had to be reassessed, and was soon left for a career in computers. After 20 years with ICL, Mr Holley joined Racal, becoming a main board director and head of its communications division, where GTech was on the client list. When Racal and GTech joined the consortium bidding for the new National Lottery, Mr Holley was the obvious candidate for the top job.

His response to the latest crisis has been typical. After visiting Oflot on Wednesday to discuss the implications of the libel verdict, he emerged all smiles, insisting it was "business as usual". Ticket sales were actually up, suggesting that the lottery-playing public didn't give a hoot about dodgy American businessmen as long as they won the jackpot.

Behind the scenes, the Camelot publicity machine was on a full war-footing, with advisers assessing the implications of the week's events. Mr Holley was not in court for the verdict — he has deliberately distanced himself from a "personal dispute" between Messrs Branson and Snowden, but he monitored events from Camelot's London office, opposite the Department of Culture, Media and Sport. Amid the controversy, he is pressing on with running the world's biggest lottery, insisting that a "party at the Lanesborough hotel in London to toast Britain's 500th lottery millionaire should carry on regardless, complete with a handful of winners.

Tickets for a new Instants television game show go on sale later this month. And although Mr Holley has shelved plans for a lottery magazine, he continues to consider possible ventures overseas.

Mr Holley has kept his head down this week, remembering the lessons of fat-cat pay rows, in which the storm passes as swiftly as it arrives. This time, the bad weather may have set in. Mr Branson's libel win raised a series of questions, and Tim Holley, as Camelot's chief executive, is expected to have the answers. He had one thing to celebrate this week. Yesterday was his 58th birthday.

JON ASHWORTH AND DOMINIC WALSH

### IN THE HOT SEAT



**TIM HOLLEY**

Born: February 6, 1940.
Raised in Somerset.
Began career as a trainee with Barclays Bank.
Spent more than 19 years with ICL, working in marketing, sales and profit-centre management.
1982: Managing director of Racal-Milgo.
1989: Chief executive of Racal-Datacom.
1993: Chief executive of Camelot.



Holley: "leads from front"

# French leave

THE European Bank for Reconstruction and Development — based in London — has finally bowed to the inevitable. On Monday its president, Jacques de Larosière, quit; he had already agreed to extend his term of office from last autumn but finally gave up waiting for a successor to arrive, while the Bank itself seems to be in denial over the appointment. (It is tied up with the wrangling over who gets to head the European Central Bank; don't ask me to explain, but it is all the fault of the French, as usual.)

Charles Frank, the EBRD's first vice-president, is now acting president for the duration. "A new president will be elected by the EBRD's board of governors," says a formal statement. Significantly, it doesn't say when.

☐ *WHEN SR Gent, the Marks & Spencer supplier, floated in 1983, founder Peter Wolff was famous for his visits to the Marble Arch store for on-the-spot market research. (He is better known these days for trying to clean up theatreland.) Last year SR Gent was taken over. And Wolff, 67, is still prowling the aisles. He was spotted at the same store, accompanied by a deferential M&S flunkey. My spy was tempted to give her (unflattering) opinion of the blouses he was inspecting.*

# Flexible friend

WHEN I was a student, a Barclays Bank manager would venture on to campus at his or her peril. The National Union of Students did not like the bank's views on South Africa, or something like that. I never got it straight. But I remember the party after we occupied the University Administration Block. Someone brought along his Hendrix LPs ... I'm sorry. Anyway, the NUS is about to announce that it has teamed up with Barclaycard. For every card issued to freshers, the latter will make a cash donation, which will provide the NUS and local student unions with about £220,000 a year. I'm not sure which is worse: the NUS and Barclays in bed together, or students with credit cards.

# Pig's ear

CORPORATE name changes can be the very devil. The less said the better, I think we agree, about Diageo. Cowie Group paid a reported £500,000 for consultants to think of Arriva after they were persuaded this made the car group more appealing to women. The consultants said Cowie also had to go because continentals could not cope with a hard C. (Like Coca-Cola?)

Burton Group awarded a holiday to the pensioner who came up with "Arcadia." Now Dalgety wants a new name that reflects its remaining business, which seems to be a sort of high-tech pig breeding. Chief executive Ken Hanna is looking for suggestions. Our ideas so far: Unipig, Swine-U-Like, Porka.

☐ *FROM a Merrill Lynch circular on BTR: "Conclusion: it would be wrong to dismiss any of these concerns but we feel that the price now factors in a very cautious scenario and does not discount the potential benefits of the new, more shareholder-friendly strategy the group has adopted." I think they mean buy.*




# TFI Friday

HAVE the forces of high capitalism succeeded where the BBC failed, and persuaded Chris Evans to do a full week's work? Evans is banned in my household, needless to say, but I am told he was on air yesterday and last Friday. Yet he famously quit the BBC because he refused to broadcast on Friday mornings.

Evans, I am told, explained his sudden reappearance to listeners yesterday by claiming audience figures are awful on his day of rest. He has, of course, the hard-headed Apax Partners to reckon with now, rather than merely his own inflated ego. The City venture fund backed his purchase of Virgin Radio and might not take too kindly to his Friday lie-ins if they hit advertising revenues. His publicity people, who are plainly terrified of the little squirt, insist the latest appearances are one-offs and his remarks were meant to be a joke. We shall see.

MARTIN WALLER

STOCK MARKET MICHAEL CLARK



*Stock Market Writer of the Year*

# Brokers hang up on BT as FTSE ends on a high

BRITISH TELECOM was in retreat as brokers turned bearish ahead of next week's third-quarter results.

It was the heaviest traded stock in the marketplace with more than 15 million shares changing hands as the price fell 17p to 563p.

Lehman Brothers, the US securities house, did much of the damage by downgrading its recommendation in the shares from "outperform" to "neutral".

Paul Norris at Lehman says there is uncertainty about the group's acquisition strategy in the US which will cloud the performance of the shares for some time.

At the same time, domestic growth is limited to 5 per cent a year, while overseas start-up costs are likely to reduce overall earnings to just 3 per cent until the turn of the century.

Lehman has also set a year-end breakup value on the shares of 570p. BT would have to return a further £5 billion, or 80p a share, to shareholders to lift the break-up value above 600p and that seems unlikely. Brokers say third-quarter results on Thursday will show a further decline in profitability.

The rest of the market managed to close at its best of the day after Wall street shrugged off the stronger than expected US payroll numbers for January. The opening rise in the Dow Jones industrial average enabled London to move into positive territory. The FTSE 100 index closed 23.3 up at a new high of 5,629.7, stretching the rise on the week to 171.2.

The index has now risen 448.3, or 8.6 per cent, during the past fortnight. Total turnover yesterday was 725 million shares.

**Railtrack** dropped 19p to 880p after it emerged that the construction of the high-speed rail link between the Channel Tunnel and London may not be necessary. Government experts are said to have concluded that the existing track could meet passenger demand during the next decade.

**Reed International** climbed 24p to 672p after Goldman Sachs moved from "hold" to "buy". Meanwhile Henderson Crosthwaite reiterated its "buy" stance on the shares.

Standing out like a sore thumb with the biggest fall of the day was **Biocompatibles**.





Profit numbers from BT on Thursday are unlikely to impress

The shares tumbled 160p, or 43 per cent, to 215p after news of the boardroom coup. Shares in the biotech company have slumped from a peak of £14.20 last year after the failure of its proposed link-up with Johnson & Johnson in the US. Not even the go-ahead to market the company's stents has revived confidence. Now it may be forced to ask shareholders to dig deep for extra cash. Speculators claim the company is vulnerable to a bid and is already being stalked by several predators anxious to develop the company's products.

**J Sainsbury** retreated 6p to 483p after like-for-like sales over the Christmas period came in below expectations. The one positive aspect was the performance of Homebase, its DIY arm. This proved to be good news for **Kingfisher**, up 16p at 987p, which owns B&Q, and **Boots**, 38½p dearer at 893p, which owns Do-It-All.

**Northern Foods**, which is in the process of demerging its dairy products arm, advanced 3½p to 271½p encouraged by positive comments from several brokers.

Mounting speculation that **Flextech** may be about to link up with Bill Gates's Microsoft to create an interactive television channel lifted the shares 15p to 502½p. It is reckoned the two companies will launch a channel catering for shoppers competing head to head with a similar scheme being pioneered by **BSkyB**, 1p lighter at 372p, and BT.

**Orange** recovered an early fall to finish 6¼p dearer at 310p as speculators pondered when **British Aerospace**, up 30p at £17.26, will reduce its 21 per cent stake in the company.

Shield Diagnostics closed 10p firmer, at 687½p, and there is every chance that the shares may make further headway next week. The group, which has developed a process for detecting heart ailments early on, is due next week to stage presentations for institutional investors in France and then in Edinburgh.

News of a bid approach lifted **Clayhithe** 16p to 92½p. The electronic equipment supplier said the talks could result in an offer being made for the company at a significant premium to the current price.

A "long-term buy" recommendation from HSBC James Capel, the broker, was good news for **McKechnie**, which responded with a rise of 13p at 440p. A "buy" recommendation from Credit Lyonnais Laing, the broker, was also good news for **David S Smith**, up 5p at 190p.

**Verity Group** was the heaviest traded share among the top 350 companies with 12.65 million shares changing hands as the price finished 1¼p lower at 69½p. Word is a foreign investor has sold a sizeable stake. Brokers say the shares were quickly absorbed.

Shares of **Whinney Mackay Lewis** were suspended at 29½p pending shareholder approval of a reorganisation. The architect has made two acquisitions for £6 million which will be financed by the issue of an extra 13.5 million shares. It will raise a further £1 million by way of a 3.3 million share placing at 30p.

**Sage Group** boiled over after hitting a new peak of £11.57½ earlier this week. The price closed 52½p down at £11.05.

**Misys** also came in for profit-taking, dropping 85p to £24.17½. But the strength of the Misys share price means the company is now valued at £2.8 billion and must be considered a candidate to become a constituent of the top 100 companies in next month's reshuffle.

☐ **GILT-EDGED:** The weaker than expected manufacturing output for December provided a springboard for bond prices to close off their lows of the day.

Now attention will switch to Monday's produce price numbers and Tuesday's retail sales for any evidence of an easing in inflationary pressure.

In the futures pit, the March series of the long gilt closed five ticks down at £122¾, while in the cash market Treasury 7.25 per cent 2007 finished £1/16 off at £108 7/16.

☐ **NEW YORK:** Shares remained firm in late morning trading with the Dow Jones industrial average bolstered by an advance from Sears. At midday the index was up 86.19 points to 8,203.44.

## MOVERS OF THE WEEK

| | Current price | Week's change | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Glaxo Wellcome | £19.24 | +281p | SmithKline Beecham talks |
| SmithKline Beecham | 821½p | +41½p | Merger talks |
| Gibbs Mew | 340p | +100p | Enterprise Inns bids |
| Argos | 628p | +207p | Gus bids 570p a share |
| Biocompatibles | 215p | -215p | Boardroom coup |
| Dalgety | 335p | +51p | Further disposals |
| Henderson | £16.12½ | -45p | Agreed bid AMP |
| Misys | £24.17½ | +90p | Possible footsie constituent |
| British Biotech | 99p | -38p | Zacutax delay |

## MAJOR INDICES

| | |
|---|---|
| **New York (midday):** | |
| Dow Jones | 8203.44 (+86.19) |
| S&P Composite | 1012.04 (+8.55) |
| **Tokyo:** | |
| Nikkei Average | 17040.06 (+36.76) |
| **Hong Kong:** | |
| Hang Seng | 10485.86 (+43.73) |
| **Amsterdam:** | |
| AEX Index | 971.99 (+7.34) |
| **Sydney:** | |
| AO | 2656.1 (-1.8) |
| **Frankfurt:** | |
| DAX | 4496.33 (-52.13) |
| **Singapore:** | |
| Straits | 1536.91 (+44.76) |
| **Brussels:** | |
| General | 15391.42 (+104.91) |
| **Paris:** | |
| CAC-40 | 3216.66 (+27.06) |
| **Zurich:** | |
| SKA Gen | 1352.10 (+7.00) |
| **London:** | |
| FT 30 | 3452.5 (+24.9) |
| FTSE 100 | 5629.7 (+23.3) |
| FTSE 250 | 4970.4 (+14.4) |
| FTSE 350 | 2680.3 (+10.5) |
| FTSE Eurotop 300 | 2500.31 (+13.46) |
| FTSE All-Share | 2609.93 (+10.06) |
| FTSE Non Financials | 2576.04 (+10.34) |
| FTSE Fixed Interest | 137.59 (-0.10) |
| FTSE Govt Secs | 102.84 (-0.02) |
| Bargains | 66235 |
| SEAQ Volume | 725.9m |
| US$ | 1.6505 (-0.0045) |
| German Mark | 2.9603 (-0.0005) |
| Exchange Index | 104.4 (Same) |
| Bank of England official close (4pm) | |
| £:ECU | n/a |
| £:SDR | 1.2158 |
| RPI | 160.0 Dec (3.6%) Jan 1987=100 |
| RPIX | 158.3 Dec (2.7%) Jan 1987=100 |

## RECENT ISSUES

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Abbey Natl Dublin II | 97½ | ... |
| Athlone Extrusions | 97 | ... |
| Diageo B | 510 | ... |
| General Inds | 35½ | ... |
| Longmead (135) | 140½ | ... |
| Marchpole | 94½ | - 2 |
| Razorback Vehicles | 102½ | ... |
| Richards Group | 60½ | ... |
| Sanctuary Warrants | 6½ | ... |

## RIGHTS ISSUES

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Derwent Vly n/p (520) | 41½ | ... |
| Pentex Engy n/p (185) | 1½ | ... |

## MAJOR CHANGES

| | |
|---|---|
| **RISES:** | |
| Total Systems | 107½p (+14p) |
| Photo-Me | 199p (+20½p) |
| Powerscreen | 216p (+15p) |
| All Nippon Air | 310p (+20½p) |
| Matthew Clark | 181½p (+12p) |
| Smiths Inds | 795p (+37p) |
| Vickers | 223½p (+10p) |
| Boots | 893p (+38½p) |
| EMI | 492p (+20p) |
| De La Rue | 370½p (+15p) |
| Marks Spencer | 586p (+23½p) |
| Business Post | 755p (+30p) |
| Prudential | 822p (+32p) |
| Johnson Matth | 559p (+17½p) |
| Hanson | 289p (+9p) |
| Vosper Thorny | 765p (+23½p) |
| Flextech | 502½p (+15p) |
| McKechnie | 440p (+13p) |
| Berkeley Gp | 650p (+19p) |
| Cobham | 800p (+22½p) |
| Wetherspoon JD | 317½p (+12p) |
| Reed Intl | 672p (+24p) |
| AB Food | 645p (+23p) |
| **FALLS:** | |
| Biocomps Intl | 215p (-180p) |
| Gearhouse Gp | 355p (-12½p) |
| Gallaher | 361p (-11p) |
| BT | 563p (-17p) |
| Select App | 553½p (-15p) |
| Lloyds TSB | 858p (-22p) |
| Railtrack | 880p (-19p) |
| Rio Tinto Ltd | 795p (-16p) |
| Northern Rock | 633½p (-11p) |
| Andrew Sykes | 867½p (-10p) |

Closing Prices Page 26

## TEMPUS

# Milking the profits

THE price of a doorstep pint will not be a falling by a penny. That is the only certainty that has emerged from the bizarre shenanigans in the milk market where irate farmers are demanding support and the agribusiness combines are crying foul over the operations of Milk Marque.

Milk is a commodity in more than ample supply but the liberalisation of supply and distribution has not led to the creation of a two-way market that anyone outside the industry would understand. Milk Marque, which controls just under half the production in England and Wales does not negotiate with its buyers but attempts to operate a sort of genteel cartel, ladling out dollops of milk at a listed price. There is no meeting of supply and demand, big consumers get no discount and and buyers all over the country pay the same price, regardless of proximity to the point of supply.

All this command and control is more suitable to a siege economy than one where raw materials are plentiful and price should follow service. In fact, some farmers are dealing direct with the big dairies who can manage their own supply chain and whose main concern is securing adequate volumes to supply factories and service their supermarket customers. Indeed, the latter are the real villains of the piece. The price fall will not be passed on to declining doorstep customers where gross margins have risen to 15 per cent. However Tesco or Sainsbury, ever keen to win customers, will demand reductions from their suppliers. There is no political platform for expensive milk, so Milk Marque's days must be numbered and dairies will profit.

## J Sainsbury

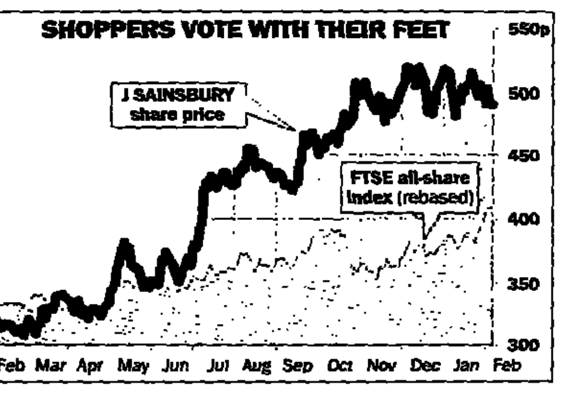
WHAT do you want from your supermarket? J Sainsbury posed just this question to its shoppers last summer — and it seems that an honest answer from many would have been: "We want it to be called Tesco."

Lord Sainsbury of Turville will not forget this Christmas in a hurry. Growth halved to 2.4 per cent, sales volumes dropped to 1 per cent compared with Tesco's fivepoints. Even the hallowed Homebase has tired of double-digit growth.

Now, it seems Sainsbury has slipped well behind the sector average of 4 per cent growth only three months after it was bullishly predicting a "strong Christmas". This is cause for concern.

The results are by no means disastrous. Sainsbury seems to be thrashing Tesco in home banking, winning £1.4 billion of deposits and 600,000 accounts. Homebase is up 9.8 per cent; after a slight slowdown, the performance is still impressive. In fact, out of three divisions, only food retailing shows a gloomy story. But sadly, food retailing speaks for 99 per cent of group profits — it is here that Sainsbury is judged by the stock market.

This is not the stuff of a recovery story. Why should Sainsbury shares, at 18.7-times forecast earnings, still command a 5 per cent premium to the market? Unless management comes up with an idea that will bring real growth back to the top line soon, this anomoly will soon correct itself.





## Flextech

WHAT is it about Flextech which makes normally sane people lose all sense of judgment? Yesterday more than £40 million was added to this company's value when it emerged that the usually hard-nosed Bill Gates of Microsoft was in talks with Flextech about launching a digital TV service.

And what exactly does Flextech bring to this party? Does it have programming? Does it have the delivery mechanism of owning the transponder? Does it have a brand name? Not really. It is essentially a wholesaler of non-terrestrial (or is it extra-terrestrial) TV services, which is far down the pecking order in a field dominated by BSkyB.

And does Flextech make any money? Again, not really. In fact, in the last financial year it lost £14 million on turnover of just £65 million. At the time the group was valued at more than £1 billion, a hefty 14 times sales and a price earnings ratio, given the lack of earnings, of infinity.

Fortunately the market has downgraded Flextech in recent months. However, on yesterday's evidence it has not lost its love affair with the company. But in the financial world, as in all things, handsome is as handsome does.

## Radio

THE ability of Chris Evans to inspire media hysteria has injected some life into the formerly moribund commercial radio sector. The quarterly figures published yesterday by Rajar (Radio Joint Audience Research) made particularly pleasing reading for most operators, especially GWR, owner of Classic FM. However, the City has been subdued, with shares in most companies falling slightly or remaining unchanged. There are plenty of sound reasons why investors should feel the same way.

Although Evans has undoubedly increased interest in radio, the market is becoming crowded, with start-up stations — such as Xfm in London — finding it difficult to secure listeners. Also, the increasingly commercial nature of the Internet and the emergence of digital television will soon offer advertisers an even greater choice of media. Radio stations could be left fighting over a rapidly shrinking pool of advertiser's money.

Against this background, the Government's decision to block the Virgin-Capital merger seems to take away the only strategy available to radio operators to reduce risk. In the present climate, commercial radio is undoubtedly an exciting sector but with the threat of revenue dilution and few opportunities to cut costs, it is more risky than ever.

CARL MORTISHED

## COMMODITIES

### LIFFE

**COCOA**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Mar | 1017-1016 | May | 1155-1151 |
| May | 1041-1040 | Jul | 1171-1170 |
| Jul | 1063-1062 | Sep | 1189-1180 |
| Sep | 1085-1083 | Dec | unq |
| Dec | 1109-1108 | | |
| Mar | 1137-1136 | Volume: | 9596 |

**ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Mar | 1764-1760 | Nov | 1665 SLR |
| May | 1730 SLR | Jan | 1678 SLR |
| Jul | 1716 SLR | Mar | 1673 SLR |
| Sep | 1695 SLR | Volume: | 3769 |

**WHITE SUGAR (FOB)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Reuters | | Oct | 289.5-88.5 |
| Spot: 284.7 | | Dec | 293.7-91.5 |
| Mar | 282.0-81.5 | Mar | 301.5-00.0 |
| May | 287.0-86.5 | May | 304.5-03.2 |
| Aug | 291.0-90.5 | Volume: | 5569 |

**MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION**

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on February 3

| (p/kg lw) | Pig | Sheep | Cattle |
|---|---|---|---|
| GB: | 78.12 | 80.23 | 99.30 |
| (+/-) | +8.42 | +4.58 | n/c |
| Eng/Wales: | 78.12 | 80.27 | 90.16 |
| (+/-) | +8.42 | +3.95 | -0.59 |
| (%) | -7.0 | +4.0 | +13.0 |
| Scotland: | unq | 80.09 | 94.10 |
| (+/-) | — | +7.05 | +0.42 |
| (%) | — | -1.0 | -4.0 |

### ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

**CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Brent Physical | 14.90 | +0.20 |
| Brent 15 day (Mar) | 15.45 | +0.20 |
| Brent 15 day (Apr) | 15.65 | +0.15 |
| W Texas Intermediate (Mar) | 16.85 | +0.25 |
| W Texas Intermediate (Apr) | 17.05 | +0.25 |

**PRODUCTS ($/MT)**

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

| | Bid | Offer |
|---|---|---|
| Premium Unld | 162 (+3) | 165 (+3) |
| Gasoil EEC | 141 (+4) | 143 (+4) |
| 3.5 Fuel Oil | 60 (n/c) | 62 (n/c) |
| Naphtha | 152 (+1) | 154 (+1) |

**IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)**

**GAS OIL**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Feb | 141.50-41.75 | May | 146.75-47.25 |
| Mar | 143.50-43.75 | Jun | 149.00 BID |
| Apr | 144.75-45.25 | | Vol: 15326 |

**BRENT (6.00pm)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Mar | 15.46-15.48 | Jun | 16.10-16.11 |
| Apr | 15.66 BID | Jul | 16.27 BID |
| May | 15.88-15.89 | | Vol: 40189 |

### GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

| LIFFE WHEAT (close £/t) | | LIFFE BARLEY (close £/t) | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Mar | 81.50 | Mar | 75.75 |
| May | 83.20 | May | 78.00 |
| Jul | 85.20 | Sep | 78.40 |
| Sep | 81.15 | Nov | 80.40 |
| Nov | 83.15 | Jan | 82.40 |
| Volume: 462 | | Volume: 62 | |

**LIFFE POTATO (£/t)**

| | Open | Close |
|---|---|---|
| Mar | unq | 70.0 |
| Apr | 72.0 | 71.0 |
| May | 82.0 | 83.0 |
| | Volume: | 72 |

**RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/kl)**

Mar 52.75-53.25

**LIFFE BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)**

| | High | Low | Close |
|---|---|---|---|
| Feb 98 | 935 | 920 | 935 |
| Mar 98 | 1025 | 900 | 1025 |
| Apr 98 | 1090 | 1070 | 1095 |
| Jul 98 | 975 | 965 | 975 |
| Vol: 108 lots | | Open Interest: | 1521 |

Index 938 -12

### LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

| (Official) (Volume prev day) | Cash | 3mth | Rudolf Wolff Vol |
|---|---|---|---|
| Copper Gde A ($/tonne) | 1685.5-1686.5 | 1710.0-1711.0 | 1196500 |
| Lead ($/tonne) | 529.00-530.00 | 541.00-542.00 | 258150 |
| Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne) | 1083.0-1084.0 | 1107.5-1108.0 | 456000 |
| Tin ($/tonne) | 5260.0-5270.0 | 5290.0-5295.0 | 33530 |
| Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne) | 1498.0-1498.5 | 1520.0-1521.0 | 1704700 |
| Nickel ($/tonne) | 5435.0-5440.0 | 5520.0-5530.0 | 130006 |

## LIFFE OPTIONS

| | Series | Calls Apr | Calls Jul | Calls Oct | Puts Apr | Puts Jul | Puts Oct |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ASDA | 200 | 12½ | 20 | 23½ | 8 | 12 | 14½ |
| (*204) | 220 | 5½ | 11½ | 14½ | 20 | 23 | 25½ |
| Abbey Nat | 1250 | 89 | 135½ | 170½ | 70½ | 97 | 123 |
| (*1270) | 1300 | 65 | 111 | 146 | 97 | 122 | 148 |
| AllLeic | 900 | 76½ | 99½ | 118½ | 38½ | 51 | 65½ |
| (*933) | 950 | 51 | 74½ | 93 | 63½ | 75½ | 90 |
| Alld Dom | 550 | 45 | 59½ | 66½ | 26 | 38½ | 40 |
| (*563½) | 600 | 24 | 35 | 44 | 53 | 66½ | 67½ |
| BAA | 500 | 38½ | 51½ | 65½ | 18½ | 28 | 33½ |
| (*518) | 550 | 15½ | 28 | 42½ | 46 | 54½ | 60 |
| BAT Ind | 550 | 54 | 69 | 81 | 22 | 34 | 44½ |
| (*586½) | 600 | 26½ | 44½ | 57 | 46½ | 58½ | 70 |
| Barclays | 1900 | 129 | 191½ | 226 | 112 | 144½ | 166 |
| (*1914½) | 2000 | 88 | 145½ | 179½ | 170½ | 198 | 218 |
| Bass | 900 | 70 | 91 | 110 | 22½ | 41½ | 52 |
| (*938) | 950 | 42 | 64½ | 83½ | 44½ | 65 | 75 |
| Boots | 850 | 73½ | 93½ | 110 | 23 | 37½ | 48½ |
| (*899) | 900 | 46½ | 66 | 84 | 43½ | 60½ | 71½ |
| Br Airways | 550 | 33 | 52 | 68½ | 27 | 40½ | 49½ |
| (*550½) | 600 | 14½ | 31½ | 48½ | 57½ | 70½ | 79 |
| BP | 800 | 51½ | 76 | 94½ | 35 | 49½ | 57½ |
| (*814½) | 850 | 30 | 55 | 71 | 62½ | 76 | 89½ |
| Br Steel | 130 | 12½ | 18 | 19 | 4½ | 10½ | 12½ |
| (*136) | 140 | 7½ | 13 | 14½ | 9½ | 16 | 18 |
| C&W | 600 | 46 | 63½ | 81 | 33 | 48 | 58 |
| (*606) | 650 | 26 | 42½ | 61 | 61 | 74 | 85½ |
| CU | 950 | 119 | 153½ | 173 | 40 | 64 | 78½ |
| (*1033½) | 1000 | 89½ | 127½ | 149 | 61 | 86½ | 103 |
| GlaxoW | 1900 | 136½ | 203 | 237½ | 103½ | 152½ | 165½ |
| (*1919) | 2000 | 83½ | 156½ | 190½ | 161 | 206 | 218 |
| HSBC | 1650 | 159 | 233½ | 264 | 109 | 155½ | 177 |
| (*1867½) | 1700 | 115 | 186½ | 219 | 161 | 208 | 228 |
| Halifax | 900 | 80 | 115 | 118 | 38½ | 54 | 56 |
| (*947½) | 950 | 54½ | 91 | 92½ | 61 | 78½ | 79½ |
| ICI | 950 | 62½ | 91½ | 112½ | 35 | 55½ | 69½ |
| (*984) | 1000 | 35½ | 66 | 87 | 60 | 80 | 94 |
| Land Sec | 1050 | 83½ | 107½ | 123½ | 28½ | 44 | 55½ |
| (*1083) | 1100 | 55 | 73 | 97 | 49½ | 67 | 78½ |
| M&S | 550 | 50 | 61½ | 73 | 13 | 23½ | 31½ |
| (*577½) | 600 | 27½ | 35 | 48 | 37½ | 48½ | 56 |
| Natl Pwr | 650 | 43 | 53½ | 72 | 30 | 49½ | 59½ |
| (*651½) | 700 | 22½ | 39 | 52 | 60 | 80 | 89½ |
| Nat West | 1150 | 103 | 138 | 161 | 65½ | 85 | 102 |
| (*1190½) | 1200 | 79½ | 113½ | 150½ | 91 | 110 | 127 |
| Redlers | 550 | 41½ | 63½ | 80½ | 30½ | 43 | 53 |
| (*564) | 600 | 20 | 41½ | 59 | 60 | 71½ | 81 |
| Rd&Sun | 650 | 68½ | 90 | 85 | 30 | 42 | 52½ |
| (*685) | 700 | 44 | 65½ | 73 | 54 | 67 | 77 |
| Safeway | 360 | 30½ | 40½ | 50½ | 12 | 20½ | 23 |
| (*376) | 390 | 16 | 26 | 35 | 27½ | 36½ | 38½ |
| Sainsbury | 460 | 43 | 52½ | 62½ | 10½ | 20 | 25 |
| (*487) | 500 | 20½ | 33 | 42 | 27 | 39½ | 44 |
| Shell | 420 | 24½ | 36½ | 45½ | 18 | 29 | 35 |
| (*422) | 460 | 9½ | 20 | 29½ | 44½ | 52½ | 58½ |
| SmKl Bch | 800 | 66½ | 97 | 119½ | 39 | 62½ | 72½ |
| (*819½) | 850 | 43 | 72½ | 95½ | 64 | 87½ | 97½ |
| Std Chtd | 700 | 60 | 99 | 114 | 62 | 88½ | 98½ |
| (*701) | 750 | 40 | 78 | 93 | 92½ | 117½ | 127 |
| Thames W | 850 | 47½ | 72½ | 81 | 22 | 40 | 48½ |
| (*886) | 900 | 25 | 47 | 57 | 49½ | 66½ | 75 |
| Vodafone | 500 | 41½ | 62½ | 76½ | 30 | 43½ | 51½ |
| (*507½) | 550 | 20½ | 38½ | 54½ | 59½ | 71½ | 79½ |
| Woolwich | 360 | 31½ | 42½ | 51 | 13½ | 19 | 26 |
| (*377½) | 390 | 17 | 27½ | 38½ | 29½ | 34½ | 40½ |
| Zeneca | 2400 | 156½ | 235½ | 301 | 109½ | 182 | 187½ |
| (*2446) | 2500 | 106½ | 184 | 251 | 161 | 213 | 236 |

| | Series | Calls Feb | Calls May | Calls Aug | Puts Feb | Puts May | Puts Aug |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| BTR | 160 | 10½ | 16 | 23 | 2½ | 13 | 16 |
| (*168) | 180 | 2 | 9½ | 15½ | 13½ | 25½ | 27½ |
| Blue Circ | 300 | 28 | 40 | 43½ | ½ | 13 | 14 |
| (*326½) | 330 | 7 | 23 | 30½ | 9½ | 27 | 28 |
| Br Aero | 1700 | 54 | 137½ | 189 | 25 | 85½ | 112 |
| (*1726½) | 1800 | 15 | 90½ | 139½ | 83½ | 139½ | 163½ |
| Br Telem | 515 | 48½ | — | — | 1 | — | — |
| (*562) | 565 | 10½ | — | — | 13½ | — | — |
| Cadbury | 700 | 27 | 51 | 66 | 7½ | 33½ | 41½ |
| (*718) | 750 | 5 | 28½ | 42½ | 38 | 61½ | 69½ |
| Energy Gp | 750 | 27 | 32½ | 37 | 3 | 4½ | 6 |
| (*773½) | 800 | 2 | 7 | 9 | 28½ | 28 | 31½ |
| Gallaher | 360 | 10 | 22½ | 31 | 8 | 23½ | 27 |
| (*362½) | 380 | 1 | 10½ | 18 | 28½ | 42½ | 45½ |
| GEC | 390 | 8½ | 27½ | 33 | 7½ | 19½ | 25½ |
| (*394) | 420 | 1 | 14½ | 19½ | 29½ | 37 | 43 |

| | Series | Calls Feb | Calls May | — | Puts Feb | Puts May | — |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Diageo PLC | 556 | 14½ | 32 | — | 10½ | 29½ | — |
| (*550) | 613 | ½ | 12½ | — | 54 | 68 | — |

| | Series | Calls Feb | Calls May | Calls Aug | Puts Feb | Puts May | Puts Aug |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Diageo PLC | 556 | 13 | 23 | 45½ | 9 | 28½ | 35½ |
| (*550) | 613 | ½ | 12½ | 22½ | 54 | 67 | 72 |
| Hanson | 280 | 14½ | 25½ | 31 | 3 | 16½ | 17 |
| (*289½) | 300 | 6½ | 17 | 22 | 13½ | 27½ | 28½ |
| Imp Tob | 420 | 22½ | 42 | 48 | 3½ | 14½ | 21½ |
| (*439) | 460 | 3 | 22 | 28½ | 23½ | 34½ | 42½ |
| Kingfshr | 950 | 48½ | 82 | 108 | 8 | 41½ | 54 |
| (*986) | 1000 | 17½ | 54½ | 77 | 28 | 65½ | 77 |
| Lasmo | 260 | 9 | 22½ | 28 | 4½ | 14½ | 18½ |
| (*263½) | 280 | 2½ | 14 | 20 | 17½ | 25½ | 28 |
| Ladbroke | 280 | 8 | 23½ | 31 | 5½ | 19½ | 22 |
| (*282½) | 300 | 1½ | 15 | 22 | 19 | 31½ | 33½ |
| LucasVar | 200 | 15 | 29½ | 32 | 1 | 8½ | 12 |
| (*213½) | 220 | 2½ | 15½ | 22½ | 8½ | 17 | 22 |
| P&O | 650 | 48 | 64½ | 76½ | 1 | 16½ | 27½ |
| (*695½) | 700 | 12 | 35 | 49½ | 15½ | 38½ | 50½ |

| | Series | Calls Feb | Calls May | Calls Aug | Puts Feb | Puts May | Puts Aug |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Prudentl | 800 | 26 | 63½ | 89½ | 17½ | 57½ | 71 |
| (*808½) | 850 | 7½ | 43½ | 66½ | 48½ | 86 | 98½ |
| Rio Tinto | 800 | 35½ | 68 | 92½ | 9½ | 47 | 57½ |
| (*824½) | 850 | 10½ | 45 | 69 | 34½ | 74½ | 84½ |
| Redland | 330 | 15½ | 16½ | 16½ | ½ | 0½ | ½ |
| (*344½) | 360 | ½ | 0½ | ½ | 16 | 15½ | 15½ |
| R-Royce | 200 | 7½ | 18½ | 26½ | 5 | 14½ | 17 |
| (*202½) | 220 | 1 | 11 | 18½ | 18½ | 26 | 28½ |
| Tesco | 500 | 24½ | 43½ | 57 | 3½ | 20 | 28½ |
| (*521) | 550 | 2½ | 20 | 33½ | 30½ | 46½ | 55 |
| Utd Bisc | 240 | 16½ | 22 | 28 | 1 | 9½ | 12½ |
| (*255½) | 260 | 2½ | 12 | 18 | 7½ | 19½ | 22½ |

| | Series | Calls Mar | Calls Jun | Calls Sep | Puts Mar | Puts Jun | Puts Sep |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| BG PLC | 306 | 21 | 32½ | — | 9 | 16½ | — |
| (*318) | 330 | 10 | 21 | 28 | 20 | 28 | 32½ |
| BSkyB | 360 | 25 | 40½ | 50½ | 14½ | 24 | 27½ |
| (*370½) | 390 | 12 | 26½ | 36½ | 31½ | 40½ | 43 |
| Br Bio | 90 | 15 | 25 | 32½ | 8½ | 15½ | 19 |
| (*94½) | 100 | 11 | 21 | 28 | 13½ | 21 | 25 |
| Centrica | 110 | 6½ | 13 | 16 | 5 | 8 | 10 |
| (*111½) | 120 | 2½ | 9 | 12 | 11 | 13½ | 15½ |
| Dixons | 500 | 23½ | 44 | 52½ | 20 | 29½ | 38 |
| (*501) | 550 | 8 | 23½ | 32 | 51½ | 58 | 67½ |
| EMI | 480 | 49 | 70 | 79½ | 12 | 26 | 38 |
| (*491½) | 492 | 32 | — | — | 35½ | — | — |
| Granada | 900 | 40½ | 73½ | 93½ | 22½ | 38½ | 54½ |
| (*913) | 950 | 21½ | 48½ | 69½ | 48½ | 64½ | 79½ |
| GUS | 750 | 42 | 69½ | 87½ | 25 | 40½ | 50½ |
| (*759½) | 800 | 20½ | 45 | 62½ | 54 | 67½ | 78½ |
| Lyds TSB | 850 | 49½ | 83 | 102 | 44 | 60½ | 75 |
| (*858) | 900 | 29 | 61½ | 79 | 79½ | 88½ | 102 |
| Lonrho | 100 | 7 | 14 | 15½ | 6 | 11 | 13 |
| (*101) | 110 | 3 | 10 | 11½ | 12 | 16½ | 19 |
| Norwich | 420 | 40 | 50 | 65 | 8 | 19½ | 22½ |
| (*450½) | 480 | 17½ | 29 | 45 | 23½ | 38½ | 41½ |
| Orange | 300 | 24½ | 40½ | 47½ | 15 | 23 | 27 |
| (*307½) | 330 | 12 | 26 | 33½ | 32 | 38½ | 43 |
| Railtrck | 850 | 65 | 97½ | 122½ | 33 | 49 | 60½ |
| (*880) | 900 | 40 | 76½ | 94 | 57 | 73 | 84½ |
| Scot Pwr | 500 | 27½ | 44½ | 55½ | 19½ | 29 | 39 |
| (*504) | 550 | 12 | 23½ | 38 | 51 | 58½ | 68 |
| Tarmac | 100 | 8 | 9½ | 14 | 3 | 5½ | 6½ |
| (*102½) | 110 | 4 | 5½ | 10 | 9 | 11½ | 12 |
| Tomkins | 300 | 32 | 43 | 48 | 2½ | 8 | 12½ |
| (*328) | 330 | 12½ | 24½ | 30 | 12 | 18 | 25 |
| Unilever | 500 | 31 | 45½ | 56½ | 9½ | 24 | 31 |
| (*515½) | 525 | 17½ | 32½ | — | 27 | 36 | — |

February 6 Total: 18072 Calls: 7586 Puts: 11486

**FTSE INDEX (*5614)**

| Strike | Calls Feb | Calls Mar | Calls Apr | Calls May | Calls Jun | Puts Feb | Puts Mar | Puts Apr | Puts May | Puts Jun |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5500 | 172 | 243 | 300 | 352 | 406½ | 48 | 120½ | 168 | 201½ | 231½ |
| 5550 | 133½ | 213 | 268 | 321½ | — | 63½ | 142½ | 187½ | 221 | — |
| 5600 | 102 | 181 | 237½ | 291 | 343 | 85½ | 166½ | 207 | 240 | 288 |
| 5650 | 75 | 160 | 206½ | 260½ | — | 108½ | 186 | 227½ | 260 | — |
| 5700 | 53 | 126 | 181 | 233½ | 283½ | 138½ | 212½ | 253 | 283½ | 310½ |
| 5750 | 34½ | 105 | 158 | 210½ | — | 174 | 241 | 281 | 310 | — |
| 5800 | 21 | 83 | 135 | 187½ | 239 | 214 | 268½ | 309 | 337 | 365 |

February 6 Total: 3920 Calls: 1827 Puts: 2093 *Underlying security price

## LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

| | Period | Open | High | Low | Sett | Vol |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Long Gilt | Mar 98 | 122-19 | 122-26 | 122-05 | 122-24 | 78077 |
| Previous open interest 200602 | Jun 98 | 106-11 | 106-20 | 106-09 | 106-25 | 879 |
| German Govt Bond (Bund) | Mar 98 | 106.01 | 106.45 | 105.95 | 106.38 | 203096 |
| Previous open interest 264223 | Jun 98 | 105.45 | 105.82 | 105.42 | 105.80 | 614 |
| German Govt Bond (Bobl) | Mar 98 | 105.09 | 105.25 | 105.08 | 105.23 | 525 |
| Previous open interest 20663 | Jun 98 | | | | 104.89 | 0 |
| Italian Govt Bond (BTP) | Mar 98 | 117.01 | 117.55 | 116.99 | 117.42 | 56333 |
| Previous open interest 142618 | Jun 98 | 116.62 | 116.99 | 116.56 | 116.91 | 926 |
| Japanese Govt Bond (JGB) | Mar 98 | 128.89 | 128.96 | 128.80 | 128.89 | 2762 |
| | Jun 98 | 128.24 | 128.31 | 128.20 | 128.28 | 1362 |
| Three Mth Sterling | Mar 98 | 92.52 | 92.57 | 92.52 | 92.55 | 23895 |
| | Jun 98 | 92.65 | 92.69 | 92.64 | 92.68 | 18873 |
| Previous open interest 784312 | Sep 98 | 92.84 | 92.87 | 92.83 | 92.86 | 18485 |
| Three Mth Euromark | Mar 98 | 96.41 | 96.43 | 96.41 | 96.43 | 32828 |
| Previous open interest 1993544 | Jun 98 | 96.24 | 96.29 | 96.24 | 96.28 | 68003 |
| Three Mth Eurolira | Mar 98 | 94.19 | 94.19 | 94.15 | 94.17 | 14374 |
| Previous open interest 694631 | Jun 98 | 95.06 | 95.09 | 95.04 | 95.07 | 24718 |
| Three Mth Euroswiss | Mar 98 | 98.67 | 98.72 | 98.66 | 98.71 | 4764 |
| Previous open interest 165538 | Jun 98 | 98.56 | 98.60 | 98.54 | 98.58 | 3759 |
| Three Mth ECU | Mar 98 | 95.64 | 95.66 | 95.64 | 95.66 | 789 |
| Previous open interest 35005 | Jun 98 | 95.65 | 95.69 | 95.65 | 95.69 | 663 |
| FTSE 100 | Mar 98 | 5598.0 | 5650.0 | 5568.0 | 5621.0 | 9292 |
| Previous open interest 2449 | Jun 98 | | | | 5664.0 | 0 |

## MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 7¼ Finance Hse 8
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 7¼ Low 4 Week fixed: 7¼
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 7¼ ; 3 mth 7¼ . Sell: 2 mth 6¾ ; 3 mth: 6¾ .

| | 1 mth | 2 mth | 3 mth | 6 mth | 12 mth |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Prime Bank Bills (Dis) | 7¼-7¼ | 7¼-7¼ | 7¼-7¼ | 7¼-7¼ | |
| Sterling Money Rates | 7¼-7¼ | 7¼-7¼ | 7¼-7¼ | 7¼-7¼ | 7¼-7¼ |
| Interbank | 7¼-7¼ | 7¼-7¼ | 7¼-7¼ | 7¼-7¼ | 7¼-7¼ |

Overnight: open 7¼, close 4 .

| | 1 mth | 2 mth | 3 mth | 6 mth | 12 mth |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Local Authority Deps | 7¼ | n/a | 7¼ | 7¼ | 7¼ |
| Sterling CDs | 7¼-7¼ | 7¼-7¼ | 7¼-7¼ | 7¼-7¼ | 7¼-7¼ |
| Dollar CDs | 5.53 | n/a | 5.53 | 5.55 | 5.59 |
| Building Society CDs | 7¼-7¼ | 7¼-7¼ | 7¼-7¼ | 7¼-7¼ | 7¼-7¼ |

TREASURY BILLS: Applcts: £484m allotted: £100m; Bids: £98.30% received: 23%; Last week: £98.32% received: 81%; Avge rate: £6.7625% last wk £6.7291%; Next week: £100m.

## EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

| Currency | 7 day | 1 mth | 3 mth | 6 mth | Call |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Dollar: | 5½-5¼ | 5½-5¼ | 5½-5¼ | 5½-5¼ | 5¼-4¼ |
| Deutschemark: | 3½-3¼ | 3½-3¼ | 3½-3¼ | 3½-3¼ | 4-3 |
| French Franc: | 3½-3¼ | 3½-3¼ | 3½-3¼ | 3½-3¼ | 3½-2¼ |
| Swiss Franc: | 1½-1 | 1½-1¼ | 1½-1¼ | 1½-1¼ | 1½-1 |
| Yen: | ½-¼ | ½-¼ | ½-¼ | ½-¼ | 1-par |

## GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $298.10-298.50 Close: $298.20-298.70 High: $301.25-301.75
Low: $297.55-298.05 AM: $301.60 PM: $299.10

Krugerrand: $304.00-306.00 (£184.00-186.00)

Platinum: $398.50 (£242.10) Silver: $7.335 (£4.465) Palladium: $240.00 (£145.80)

## STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

| Mkt Rates for Feb 6 | Range | Close | 1 month | 3 month |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Amsterdam | 3.3347-3.3420 | 3.3347-3.3380 | 1½-1pr | 3½-3¼pr |
| Brussels | 61.066-61.220 | 61.066-61.129 | 20-15pr | 61-54pr |
| Copenhagen | 11.273-11.299 | 11.273-11.283 | ½-½pr | ½-½pr |
| Dublin | 1.1754-1.1834 | 1.1794-1.1814 | 12-9pr | 43-38pr |
| Frankfurt | 2.9585-2.9652 | 2.9585-2.9614 | ½-½pr | 2½-2½pr |
| Lisbon | 302.85-303.50 | 302.85-303.20 | ½-½pr | 2½-1½pr |
| Madrid | 250.63-251.37 | 250.63-250.95 | 54-44pr | 175-150pr |
| Milan | 2921.9-2926.2 | 2921.9-2926.2 | 34-18pr | 103-81pr |
| Montreal | 2.3546-2.3722 | 2.3546-2.3588 | 0.49-0.44pr | 1.05-0.97pr |
| New York | 1.6500-1.6530 | 1.6500-1.6510 | 0.243-0.222pr | 0.748-0.717pr |
| Oslo | 12.331-12.349 | 12.338-12.349 | ½-½pr | 1½-1pr |
| Paris | 9.9170-9.9380 | 9.9170-9.9265 | 3½-2½pr | 9½-9½pr |
| Stockholm | 13.222-13.238 | 13.222-13.238 | ½-½pr | ½-½pr |
| Tokyo | 203.84-205.31 | 203.84-204.12 | 1½-1pr | 3½-3½pr |
| Vienna | 20.815-20.863 | 20.815-20.836 | ½-½pr | 2-1½pr |
| Zurich | 2.3882-2.3929 | 2.3882-2.3913 | 1½-1½pr | 3½-3½pr |

Source: Extel Premium - pr. Discount - ds.

## DOLLAR RATES

| | |
|---|---|
| Australia | 1.4912-1.4923 |
| Austria | 12.61-12.62 |
| Belgium (Com) | 36.99-37.00 |
| Canada | 1.4274-1.4279 |
| Denmark | 6.8228-6.8358 |
| France | 6.0095-6.0105 |
| Germany | 1.7934-1.7939 |
| Hong Kong | 7.7355-7.7375 |
| Ireland | 1.3975-1.3995 |
| Italy | 1771.0-1773.0 |
| Japan | 123.75-123.80 |
| Malaysia | 3.8800-3.9100 |
| Netherlands | 2.0216-2.0215 |
| Norway | 7.4706-7.4756 |
| Portugal | 183.56-183.66 |
| Singapore | 1.6510-1.6530 |
| Spain | 151.94-152.03 |
| Sweden | 8.0131-8.0181 |
| Switzerland | 1.4462-1.4472 |

## OTHER STERLING

| | |
|---|---|
| Argentina peso* | 1.6495-1.6522 |
| Australia dollar | 2.4588-2.4617 |
| Bahrain dinar | 0.6145-0.6285 |
| Brazil real* | 1.8490-1.8519 |
| China yuan | 13.516-13.816 |
| Cyprus pound | 0.8585-0.8775 |
| Finland markka | 8.9000-9.0410 |
| Greece drachma | 463.25-473.75 |
| Hong Kong dollar | 12.7643-12.7731 |
| India rupee | 63.18-64.48 |
| Indonesia rupiah | n/a |
| Kuwait dinar KD | 0.4975-0.5085 |
| Malaysia ringgit | 6.4001-6.4515 |
| New Zealand dollar | 2.8332-2.8375 |
| Pakistan rupee | 64.45 Buy |
| Saudi Arabia riyal | 5.9375-6.0725 |
| Singapore dollar | 2.7233-2.7274 |
| S Africa rand (com) | 8.0170-8.1860 |
| U A E dirham | 5.9900-6.1260 |

*Barclays Treasury * Lloyds Bank*

## FTSE VOLUMES

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3I | 2,500 | Land Secs | 1,300 |
| AMVESCAP | 570 | Legal & Gn | 914 |
| ASDA Gp | 4,400 | Lloyds TSB | 13,200 |
| Abbey Ntl | 2,900 | LucasVarity | 3,500 |
| Allnce & Leic | 1,600 | Marks Spr | 6,800 |
| Allied Dom | 2,500 | NatWst Bk | 2,800 |
| AB Foods | 514 | Nat Grid | 7,000 |
| BAA | 2,800 | Nat Power | 2,700 |
| BAT Inds | 9,400 | Next | 977 |
| BG | 7,300 | Norwich Un | 2,800 |
| BOC | 272 | Nycomed Amr | 966 |
| BP | 5,900 | Orange | 1,300 |
| BSkyB | 1,900 | P & O | 930 |
| BTR | 10,900 | Pearson | 1,900 |
| BT | 15,200 | PowerGen | 1,500 |
| Bk of Scot | 2,800 | Prudential | 2,900 |
| Barclays | 4,000 | Railtrack | 1,400 |
| Bass | 812 | Rank Group | 1,700 |
| Billiton | 5,700 | Reckitt Col | 303 |
| Blue Circle | 699 | Reed Intl | 5,700 |
| Boots | 1,100 | Rentokil | 3,600 |
| BAe | 1,400 | Reuters | 6,500 |
| BA | 3,800 | Rio Tinto | 2,100 |
| Brit Energy | 1,300 | Rolls Royce | 4,200 |
| British Land | 846 | Royal & Sun | 2,000 |
| Brit Steel | 15,000 | Royal Bk Sct | 3,100 |
| Cable Wire | 3,600 | Safeway | 3,000 |
| Cadbury | 2,000 | Sainsbury | 3,400 |
| Carlton Cms | 4,100 | Schroders | 31 |
| Centrica | 4,100 | Scot & New | 171 |
| Cm Union | 661 | Scot Power | 3,500 |
| Diageo | 6,200 | Svrn Trent | 325 |
| Dixons | 4,400 | Shell Trans | 8,200 |
| EMI | 5,100 | Siebe | 863 |
| Energy Gp | 2,100 | SmKl Bch | 8,600 |
| Enterpr Oil | 339 | Smiths Inds | 925 |
| GKN | 1,800 | Std Chartd | 2,700 |
| GRE | 1,800 | Sun Life | 1,100 |
| GUS | 3,000 | Tesco | 4,100 |
| Gen Acc | 349 | Thames W | 774 |
| Gen Elec | 2,100 | Tomkins | 1,500 |
| Glaxo Well | 4,400 | Unilever | 5,500 |
| Granada | 850 | Utd Utilities | 1,200 |
| HSBC | 2,400 | Utd News | 1,800 |
| Halifax | 9,100 | Vodafone | 4,200 |
| Hays | 854 | Whitbread | 526 |
| ICI | 2,900 | Williams | 2,200 |
| Kingfisher | 1,600 | Wolseley | 540 |
| LASMO | 503 | Woolwich | 2,500 |
| Ladbroke | 5,600 | Zeneca | 2,300 |

## WALL STREET

| | Feb 6 midday | Feb 5 close |
|---|---|---|
| AMP Inc | 41½ | 41½ |
| AMR Corp | 129½ | 124½ |
| AT & T | 64½ | 63½ |
| Abbott Labs | 70½ | 70½ |
| Advanced Micro | 18½ | 19 |
| Aetna Life | 79½ | 80 |
| Ahmanson (HF) | 61 | 60½ |
| Air Prod & Chem | 84 | 83½ |
| AirTouch Comm | 43½ | 43½ |
| Albertson's | 47½ | 47½ |
| Alcan Aluminum | 30½ | 30½ |
| Allied Signal | 41 | 41 |
| Alum Co of Am | 76 | 75½ |
| Amerada Hess | 57½ | 57½ |
| AEP | 49½ | 49½ |
| Amer Express | 87½ | 86½ |
| Amer Genl Corp | 57 | 56½ |
| Amer Home Pr | 91 | 90½ |
| Amer Intl | 113½ | 113½ |
| Amer Stores | 22½ | 22½ |
| Amer Standard | 40½ | 40½ |
| Ameritech | 41½ | 40½ |
| Amgen | 53½ | 51½ |
| Amoco | 84½ | 85½ |
| Andrew Corp | 27½ | 28½ |
| Anheuser-Busch | 45½ | 44½ |
| Apple Computer | 18½ | 18½ |
| Archer Daniels | 22 | 21½ |
| Armco | 4½ | 4½ |
| Armstrng Wrld | 72½ | 72½ |
| Asarco | 23½ | 22½ |
| All Richfield | 75½ | 74½ |
| Atmel Corp | 17½ | 17½ |
| Auto Data Pro | 60½ | 61½ |
| Avery Dennison | 48½ | 47½ |
| Avon Products | 65½ | 65½ |
| Baker Hughes | 40½ | 40½ |
| Baltim Gas & El | 31½ | 30½ |
| Banc One | 60½ | 59½ |
| BankAmerica | 73½ | 72 |
| Bank of NY | 56½ | 56 |
| Bankers Tr NY | 109½ | 107½ |
| Bausch & Lomb | 44 | 43½ |
| Baxter Intl | 56 | 55½ |
| Becton Dickinsn | 63½ | 62½ |
| Bell Atlantic | 92½ | 91½ |
| BellSouth | 58½ | 57½ |
| Best Foods | 102½ | 100½ |
| Black & Decker | 49½ | 49½ |
| Block (H&R) | 45½ | 44½ |
| Boeing | 46½ | 46½ |
| Boise Cascade | 33½ | 33½ |
| Boston Scien | 55½ | 54½ |
| Bristol Myrs Sq | 98½ | 98½ |
| Browning Ferris | 32½ | 32½ |
| Brunswick | 31½ | 31½ |
| Burlington Nthn | 92½ | 91½ |
| CMS Energy Corp | 42½ | 41½ |
| CSX | 56½ | 56½ |
| CBS Corp | 30½ | 30 |
| Campbell Soup | 56½ | 55½ |
| Carolina Pwr | 41½ | 40½ |
| Case Corp | 62½ | 61½ |
| Caterpillar | 49½ | 48½ |
| Central & SW | 27½ | 26½ |
| Champion Intl | 52½ | 52½ |
| Chase Manhat | 117½ | 114½ |
| Chevron Corp | 77½ | 77½ |
| Chrysler | 35½ | 35½ |
| Chubb Corp | 80½ | 79½ |
| Cigna Corp | 179½ | 177½ |
| Citicorp | 127½ | 125½ |
| Clorox | 79½ | 78½ |
| Coastal Corp | 60½ | 59½ |
| Coca Cola | 67½ | 67½ |
| Coca Cola Ent | 32½ | 32½ |
| Colgate-Palm | 77½ | 77½ |
| Columbia Energy | 74½ | 72½ |
| ColumbiaHCA | 24½ | 26½ |
| Compaq Comp | 34½ | 35½ |
| Comp Ass Int | 55½ | 56½ |
| ConAgra | 31½ | 31½ |
| Cons Edison | 42½ | 42½ |
| Cons Nat Gas | 54½ | 54½ |
| Cooper Inds | 56½ | 55½ |
| Corestates | 78½ | 77½ |
| Corning Inc | 39½ | 39½ |
| C'wide Credit | 47½ | 47 |
| Crestar Finl | 54½ | 54½ |
| Crown Cork | 51½ | 51½ |
| Dana Corp | 51½ | 50½ |
| Dayton Hudson | 75½ | 75 |
| Deere | 54½ | 53½ |
| Delta Air Lines | 114½ | 113½ |
| Deluxe Corp | 34½ | 34½ |
| Digital Equip | 60½ | 60½ |
| Dillard Dept St | 37½ | 37½ |
| Disney (Walt) | 108½ | 108½ |
| Dominion Res | 40½ | 39½ |
| Donelley (RR) | 36½ | 36½ |
| Dover Corp | 35½ | 35½ |
| Dow Chemical | 93½ | 93½ |
| Dow Jones | 50½ | 50½ |
| Dresser | 37½ | 38½ |
| Duke Power | 55½ | 54½ |
| Dun & Bradstreet | 32½ | 32 |
| Du Pont | 60½ | 59½ |
| Eastman Chem | 60½ | 60½ |
| Eastman Kodak | 64½ | 64½ |
| Eaton Corp | 93½ | 93½ |

| | Feb 6 midday | Feb 5 close |
|---|---|---|
| Edison Int | 26½ | 27½ |
| Elect Data Sys | 43½ | 44½ |
| Emerson Elec | 63 | 62½ |
| Engelhard Corp | 17½ | 17½ |
| Enron Corp | 42½ | 42½ |
| Entergy | 29½ | 28½ |
| Ethyl Corp | 7½ | 7½ |
| Exxon | 62½ | 61½ |
| FDX Holding | 66½ | 66½ |
| FMC Corp | 70 | 69½ |
| FPL Group | 58½ | 57½ |
| Fifth Third Banc | 78½ | 77½ |
| Fleet Finl Grp | 76½ | 77½ |
| Fluor Corp | 40½ | 40½ |
| Ford Motor | 50½ | 50½ |
| Fort James | 42½ | 42½ |
| Fortune Brands | 38½ | 37½ |
| Franklin Res | 47½ | 47½ |
| GTE Corp | 54½ | 54 |
| Gannett | 61½ | 60½ |
| Gap Inc Del | 41½ | 41½ |
| Gateway 2000 | 39½ | 39½ |
| Gen Dynamics | 88 | 87½ |
| Gen Electric | 77½ | 76½ |
| Gen Mills | 72½ | 72½ |
| Gen Motors | 60½ | 60 |
| Gen Reinsurance | 210 | 209½ |
| Gen Signal | 39½ | 40 |
| Genuine Parts | 34½ | 34 |
| Georgia Pac | 57 | 56½ |
| Gillette | 100½ | 100½ |
| Glaxo Welc ADR | 63½ | 63½ |
| Goodrich (BF) | 43½ | 43½ |
| Goodyear Tire | 63½ | 63½ |
| Great Lakes | 45½ | 45½ |
| Halliburton | 49½ | 48½ |
| Harcourt General | 54½ | 54½ |
| Heinz (HJ) | 56½ | 55½ |
| Hercules | 48½ | 48½ |
| Hershey Foods | 64½ | 62½ |
| Hewlett Packard | 62½ | 61½ |
| Hilton Hotels | 28½ | 28½ |
| Home Depot | 63½ | 63½ |
| Homestake Mng | 10½ | 10½ |
| Honeywell | 76½ | 76½ |
| Household Intl | 127½ | 126½ |
| Houston Inds | 26½ | 26½ |
| Humana | 21½ | 21 |
| ITT Corp | 79½ | 80½ |
| Ikon Office | 34½ | 33½ |
| Illinois Tool | 56½ | 56½ |
| Illinova | 29½ | 29 |
| INCO | 17½ | 17½ |
| Ingersoll Rand | 43½ | 43 |
| Inland Steel | 20½ | 20½ |
| Insel Corp | 86½ | 86½ |
| IBM | 98½ | 99½ |
| Intl Flav & Fr | 44 | 43½ |
| Intl Paper | 48½ | 47 |
| Jhnsn & Jhnsn | 69½ | 68½ |
| Kellogg | 43½ | 43½ |
| Kerr-McGee | 64½ | 63½ |
| Kimberly-Clark | 55½ | 55½ |
| Kmart | 12½ | 12½ |
| Knight-Ridder | 56 | 55½ |
| Lilly (Eli) | 66½ | 66½ |
| Limited Inc | 28½ | 28½ |
| Lincoln Nat | 77½ | 76½ |
| Litton | 60½ | 60½ |
| Liz Claiborne | 41½ | 41½ |
| Lockheed Martin | 110½ | 109½ |
| Louisiana Pac | 21½ | 21½ |
| MCI Comm | 47½ | 47½ |
| Manpower Inc | 39½ | 39½ |
| Marriott Int | 72½ | 72 |
| Marsh & McLen | 75½ | 75½ |
| Masco Corp | 51 | 50½ |
| May Dept St | 56 | 55½ |
| Maytag Corp | 40½ | 39½ |
| McDonalds | 49 | 48½ |
| McGraw Hill | 71½ | 71½ |
| Mead Corp | 34½ | 33½ |
| Meditrust Corp | 31½ | 31½ |
| Medtronic | 54½ | 53½ |
| Mellon Bk | 62½ | 62½ |
| Merck Inc | 114½ | 113½ |
| Mercury Fin | 0½ | 0½ |
| Merrill Lynch | 67½ | 65 |
| Microsoft | 156½ | 155½ |
| Minnesota Mine | 88½ | 87½ |
| Mirage Resorts | 25½ | 25½ |
| Mobil Corp | 71½ | 70½ |
| Monsanto | 49½ | 49½ |
| Morgan (JP) | 114 | 107½ |
| Motorola Inc | 63 | 64½ |
| Mylan Labs | 19½ | 18½ |
| Natl Semi | 22½ | 22½ |
| Natl Service Ind | 51 | 50½ |
| Navistar Int | 31½ | 31½ |
| NY Times A | 65½ | 66½ |
| Newmont Mng | 28½ | 27½ |
| Nike B | 40½ | 40½ |
| NL Industries | 18½ | 18½ |
| Nordstrom | 51½ | 53½ |
| Norfolk Sthrn | 33½ | 33 |
| Nthn State Pwr | 53½ | 53½ |
| Norwest Corp | 38½ | 38½ |
| Occidental Pet | 26½ | 25½ |
| Office Depot | 24½ | 24½ |
| Oracle | 24½ | 23½ |

| | Feb 6 midday | Feb 5 close |
|---|---|---|
| Oryx Energy Co | 24½ | 24½ |
| Owens Corning | 27½ | 27½ |
| PPG Industries | 60½ | 59½ |
| PMI Group | 69½ | 69½ |
| PNC Bank | 56½ | 54½ |
| PP&L Res | 22½ | 22½ |
| Paccar Inc | 55½ | 56 |
| Pacificorp | 24½ | 24½ |
| Pac Enterprises | 36½ | 36½ |
| PaineWebber | 31½ | 31½ |
| Pall Corp | 20½ | 20½ |
| Parker Hannifin | 45½ | 44½ |
| Peco Energy | 20½ | 20½ |
| Penney (JC) | 67½ | 65½ |
| Pennzoil | 67½ | 67½ |
| Pepsico | 35½ | 35½ |
| Pfizer | 80½ | 79½ |
| Pharm & Upjhn | 40 | 39½ |
| Phelps Dodge | 65½ | 65½ |
| Philip Morris | 44½ | 43½ |
| Phillips Pet | 45½ | 44½ |
| Pitney Bowes | 45½ | 46½ |
| Polaroid | 45½ | 43½ |
| Procter & Gmbl | 81½ | 79½ |
| Providian | 49½ | 49½ |
| Pub Serv E & G | 31½ | 31½ |
| Quaker Oats | 52½ | 51½ |
| Ralston Purina | 95½ | 94½ |
| Raychem Corp | 38½ | 39½ |
| Raytheon B | 54½ | 54½ |
| Reebok Intl | 28½ | 28½ |
| ReliaStar Fin | 41½ | 41½ |
| Reynolds Metals | 63½ | 63½ |
| Rockwell Intl | 59½ | 57½ |
| Rohm & Haas | 91½ | 90½ |
| Royal Dutch | 53½ | 53½ |
| Rubbermaid | 25½ | 25½ |
| SBC Comms | 77½ | 76½ |
| Safeco Corp | 51½ | 51½ |
| St Paul's Cos | 88½ | 87½ |
| Sara Lee Corp | 54 | 54½ |
| Schering Plough | 72½ | 71½ |
| Schlumberger | 77½ | 76½ |
| Seagram | 36½ | 35½ |
| Sears Roebuck | 52½ | 50½ |
| Shell Trans | 42½ | 41½ |
| Sherwin Wilms | 28½ | 28½ |
| Silicon Graphics | 14½ | 14½ |
| Snap-On-Tools | 40½ | 40½ |
| Southern Co | 24½ | 24½ |
| Southtrust | 59½ | 58½ |
| Sprint Corp | 59½ | 59½ |
| Stanley Works | 46½ | 45½ |
| Sun Company | 40½ | 40½ |
| Sun Microsys | 48½ | 49½ |
| Suntrust | 72½ | 71½ |
| Supervalu | 45½ | 45 |
| Synovus Fin | 33½ | 33½ |
| Sysco Corp | 47½ | 47½ |
| TRW Inc | 53½ | 52½ |
| TJG Hldgs | 24½ | 24½ |
| Tandy Corp | 41½ | 41½ |
| Temple Inland | 55½ | 55½ |
| Tenet Healthcare | 35½ | 34½ |
| Tenneco | 41½ | 41½ |
| Texaco | 54½ | 53½ |
| Texas Inst | 53½ | 54½ |
| Texas Utilities | 40½ | 40½ |
| Textron | 65½ | 64½ |
| Thermo Elect | 39½ | 39½ |
| Time Warner | 63½ | 63½ |
| Times-Mirror A | 58½ | 58½ |
| Timken | 32½ | 31½ |
| Torchmark | 42½ | 41½ |
| Toys R Us | 28½ | 28½ |
| Transamerica | 108½ | 108½ |
| Travelers | 53½ | 52½ |
| Tribune | 60½ | 60½ |
| UST Inc | 35½ | 34½ |
| US Bancorp | 114½ | 112½ |
| UAL | 85½ | 86 |
| Unilirin | 64½ | 66½ |
| US Inds | 27½ | 27½ |
| US West Comm | 48½ | 47½ |
| US West Media | 28½ | 29½ |
| USAirways Group | 62½ | 62½ |
| USX Marathon | 33½ | 33 |
| Unicom | 31½ | 30½ |
| Unilever NV | 61½ | 60½ |
| Union Camp | 60½ | 59½ |
| Union Carbide | 47 | 46½ |
| Union Pacific | 63½ | 61½ |
| Unisys Corp | 17½ | 17½ |
| USF&G Corp | 24½ | 24½ |
| United Tech | 84½ | 84½ |
| Unocal Corp | 36½ | 35½ |
| VF Corp | 42½ | 41½ |
| Wal-Mart Stores | 43 | 42½ |
| Warner-Lambert | 157½ | 154 |
| Waste Mngmt | 25½ | 25½ |
| Wells Fargo | 322½ | 318½ |
| Weyerhaeuser | 51½ | 51½ |
| Whirlpool | 61½ | 60½ |
| Whitman | 17½ | 17½ |
| Winn Dixie | 51½ | 50½ |
| Witco Corp | 41½ | 41½ |
| Woolworth | 21½ | 22½ |
| Wrigley (Wm) Jr | 75½ | 75½ |
| Xerox | 86½ | 86½ |
| Xilinx Inc | 39½ | 38½ |

## NEWS

### Blair to rescue of besieged Clinton

■ Tony Blair stormed to the rescue of his "colleague and friend" President Clinton as devastating new disclosures in the Monica Lewinsky scandal hit the White House. In a highly-charged joint appearance intended to be a triumphant climax in Mr Blair's visit, Mr Clinton stonewalled questions about the latest reports about the investigation ..... **Pages 1, 12, 13, 23**

### Iraqi generals 'ready to rebel'

■ Iraqi army commanders would rebel against President Saddam Hussein if they were convinced an attack by America and Britain was aimed at removing him from power, Iraq's former head of military intelligence said. He said a ten-day bombing campaign would be sufficient ..... **Pages 1, 2, 22**

### Purge by Labour

A purge of left-wing and corrupt Labour councillors was launched by John Prescott in an attempt to stop town hall extremism.. **Page 1**

### New MPs 'fawning'

New women Labour MPs are so fawning that they resemble the Stepford Wives with "chips inserted in their brains", left-winger Brian Sedgemore said ..... **Page 4**

### Disco bands a hit

In the continuing Seventies revival, disco bands are again playing to packed houses..... **Page 8**

### Women commanders

THE Royal Navy has abolished tradition by appointing two women to command warships. Susan Moore and Melanie Rees are both 26 and lieutenants..... **Page 7**

### High rolling in court

Gambler Jack Ramsden outlined to the High Court a betting system which he said could earn him £100,000 a year ..... **Page 7**

### Lambeth's volte face

Lambeth, once a bastion of socialism, has hired a private company to help run its schools ..... **Page 10**

### Early warning

Engravings by an 18th-century antiquary have helped to demonstrate that prehistoric standing stones at Avebury, Wiltshire, are in danger of collapse ..... **Page 17**

### Bomber identified

An explosive device that showered London shoppers with debris on Thursday was the work of the Mardi Gra bomber ..... **Page 18**

### Rifle cannot miss

A British engineer working in the US has built a weapon that could put snipers out of business — it can't miss..... **Page 15**

### Colombo blast kills 9

A bomb exploded in central Colombo hours after the Prince of Wales left Sri Lanka. At least nine people were killed..... **Page 16**

### Back seat passenger was a croc

■ Police in Wales drew lots to decide who would help to deal with Scipio, a 5-ft crocodile they found on the back seat of a car after his owner drove off the road. Eugene Granat was taking the croc to a vet to be circumcised when he crashed..... **Page 1**



GILL ALLEN

A Lucian Freud masterpiece, *Large Interior, W11 (After Watteau)*, is expected to fetch more then £2 million at Sotheby's New York in May

**NEWS FEATURES**

**Path to oblivion:** Unhinged by drugs and depression, Michael Hutchence decided that death was preferable to fame, wealth, and his troubled relationship with Paula Yates ..... **Page 20**

**Valerie Grove:** Richard Branson's letter to his grandmother from school set the tone: "Life is altogether full up," he wrote. It has been like that ever since ..... **Page 21**

**Food of love:** Saucy Valentine's Day offerings, including aphrodisiac meals, are finding their way on to supermarket shelves ..... **Page 9**

**OPINION**

**Misplaced loyalty:** As Gerald Ford said, truth is the glue that holds government together. Mr Clinton's credibility looks ungummed **Page 23**

**Passing the baton:** If conductors were to devote more time to nurturing new traditionalists they might find it easier to persuade Mr Blair that Be Here Now is not the ne plus ultra of music..... **Page 23**

**LETTERS**

Music in schools: Captain Chavasse,VC ; Kipling's son; Helen Duncan and the paranormal ..... **Page 23**

**COLUMNS**

**Simon Jenkins:** Hours of briefing and piles of paper have left me baffled as to the point of the apparently imminent bombing of Iraq by the US and Britain..... **Page 22**

**Peter Stothard:** The Editor of *The Times* responds to the peers who want to restrict the right of newspapers to compete freely in the marketplace..... **Page 22**

**OBITUARIES**

**Monica Edwards**, children's author; **Janet Stone**, photographer; **Harry Hambling**, painter ..... **Page 25**

**BUSINESS**

**Stock Exchange:** The financial services Bill is to include a clause that could strip the Stock Exchange of its regulatory powers..... **Page 27**

**Markets:** The FT-SE 100 Index rose 23.3 points to close at 5629.7 ..... **Page 31**

**MONEY GUIDE**

**Supplement:** A guide to the best place to put your savings from the millennium

**WEEKEND MONEY**

Enterprising investors seek tips in cyberspace ... **Page 49**

**SPORT**

**Cricket:** England's bowlers hit back with early wickets in the second Test in Trinidad after West Indies has dismissed them for 214..... **Page 33**

**Rugby union:** England and France, two teams in search of a future, begin the Five Nations Championship in Paris... **Page 35**

**Football:** Gary Speed, who completed a £5.5-million transfer to Newcastle United, was sent on his way with an angry outburst from the Everton manager ..... **Page 37**

**SECTIONS**

**the times magazine**

**Spin doctor:** Cricket's bad boy goes straight. **Page 16**

**Woman's touch:** Britain's women envoys..... **Page 30**

**Daddy's boy:** How Michael Jackson is bringing up baby ..... **Page 38**

**Rockers of ages:** Fleetwood Mac are back**Page 6**

**Top of the plots:** William Boyd analyses success — it's all luck..... **Page 15**

**Gospel spotlight:** Harlem's best are trotting round Europe..... **Page 22**

**WEEKEND**

**GI Jones:** Britain's female soldiers manning the front line..... **Pages 1, 3**

**Robert Bolt:** The silencing of a genius..... **Page 2**

**Bald facts:** Women who suffer the anguish of hair loss..... **Page 19**

**HEALING**

**Healing:** An A-Z guide to complementary medicine

**Vision**

**Nowhere man:** Channel 4 on Mosley..... **Page 12**

**mega**

Robin Williams's bounce

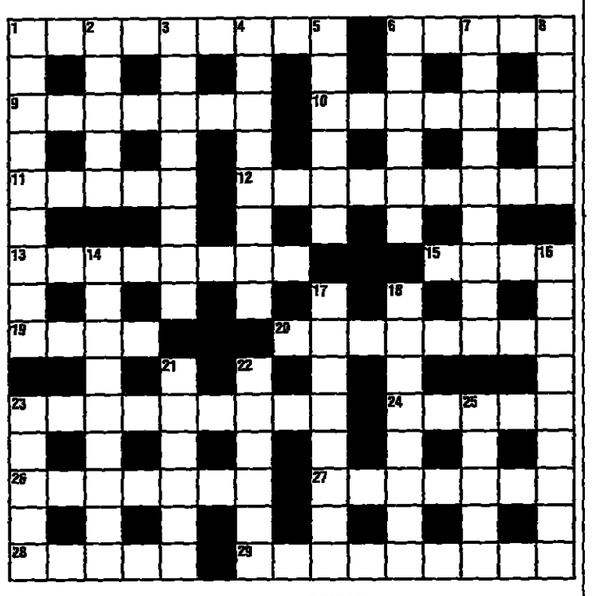
## THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,709

*A £20 book token will be awarded to the senders of the first five correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: The Times, Saturday Crossword Competition, PO Box 486, Virginia Street, London E1 9DD. The names of the winners and the solution will be published next Saturday.*

Name/Address .....

.....

.....



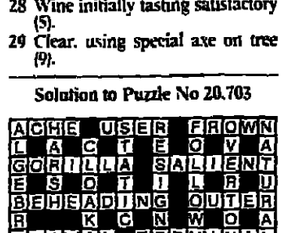
**ACROSS**

1 Green's the shade for this rock (9).
6 Appear unexpectedly to be pawn ahead (3,2).
9 Bird getting stronger, gaining weight (7).
10 Account for Times appearing in English flat (7).
11 Is it odd of *me* to join this game? (5).
12 Lacking a match, with no pair, we hear, in love (9).
13 What makes a powerful body — or a heavenly one (8).
15 Given money to eat (4).
19 The French backs have a *name* for it? (4).
20 Provide care in short time, nurse having lost her head (8).
23 Advertisement about time for showing up poor linesman (9).
24 Sort of fund liable to melt away? (5).
26 Start to lose one's temper (4,3).
27 From which potential soldiers shoot (7).
28 Wine initially tasting satisfactory (5).
29 Clear, using special axe on tree (9).

**DOWN**

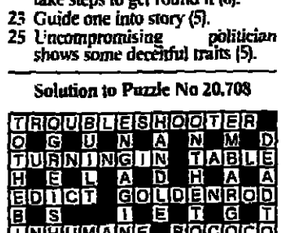
1 Relatively unimportant action the army is in, but not RAF (5,4).
2 A precept for Gorky, say (5).
3 Dashing spray hid the location of launches (8).
4 Material for dress — and there's no end of wild parties coming round (8).
5 Cast off, following this direction (6).
6 Common lacks centrepiece — a tree (6).
7 Position fitting beneficiaries of patronage exactly! (9).
8 Piece of glass left in section of door (5).
14 Distinctive sign to invest in sterling, perhaps? (9).
16 One's not fancied getting run in black stockings (4,5).
17 Harte put in agonised toil to create book (8).
18 Room for fighter with arrogance to step out (8).
21 Flier eating chop and banger (6).
22 Have trouble breathing? Fine, take steps to get round it (6).
23 Guide one into story (5).
25 Uncompromising politician shows some deceitful traits (5).

**Solution to Puzzle No 20,703**



| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A | C | H | E | | U | S | E | R | | F | R | O | W | N |
| L | | A | | C | | T | | E | | O | | V | | A |
| G | O | R | I | L | L | A | | S | A | L | I | E | N | T |
| E | | S | | O | | T | | I | | L | | B | | U |
| B | E | H | S | A | D | I | N | G | | O | U | T | E | R |
| R | | | | K | | C | | N | | W | | O | | A |
| A | V | O | W | A | L | | T | E | R | M | I | N | A | L |
| | | V | | N | | P | | D | | Y | | E | | |
| T | H | E | O | D | O | R | E | | C | L | O | S | E | T |
| O | | N | | O | | E | | E | | S | | | A | |
| M | A | R | I | A | | M | A | N | H | A | T | T | A | N |
| B | | E | | G | | I | | S | | D | | R | | G |
| O | R | A | N | G | E | S | | I | T | E | M | I | S | E |
| Y | | D | | E | | E | | G | | R | | P | | N |
| S | H | Y | E | R | | S | I | N | K | | S | E | N | T |

**Solution to Puzzle No 20,708**



| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| T | R | O | U | B | L | E | S | H | O | O | T | E | R | |
| O | | G | | U | | N | | A | | M | | D | | |
| T | U | R | N | I | N | G | | T | A | B | L | E | | |
| H | | E | | L | | A | | D | | H | | A | | A |
| E | D | I | C | T | | G | O | L | D | E | N | R | O | D |
| B | | S | | I | | E | | T | | G | | T | | |
| I | N | H | U | M | A | N | E | | R | O | C | O | C | O |
| T | | A | | G | | H | | W | | | | T | | |
| T | I | G | H | T | S | | T | O | P | N | O | T | C | H |
| E | | U | | C | | T | | N | | | W | E | | |
| R | O | A | D | H | O | U | S | E | | M | I | A | O | W |
| E | | N | | W | | N | | Y | | O | | D | | O |
| N | G | A | I | O | | E | M | B | R | O | I | D | E | R |
| D | | C | | O | | U | | R | | L | | L | | |
| | | H | O | L | D | U | P | O | N | E | S | H | E | A | D |

LAST WEEKS WINNERS: *O Norton, London SE17; R Marshall, Whittlesford, Cambridge; J D G Pank, Hatherden, Andover, Hants; J W Martin, Market Drayton, Shropshire; C M Phillips, Rainham, Kent.*

## AA INFORMATION

**Latest Road and Weather conditions**

| | |
|---|---|
| UK Weather- All regions | 0336 444 910 |
| UK Roads - All regions | 0336 401 410 |
| Inside M25 | 0336 401 746 |
| M25 and Link Roads | 0336 401 747 |
| National Motorways | 0336 401 748 |
| Continental Europe | 0336 401 910 |
| Channel crossing | 0336 401 388 |
| Motoring to Heathrow & Gatwick airports | 0336 407 505 |

**Weather by Fax** — The Met Office

Dial 0336 followed by area number from your fax

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| West Country | 416 334 | N. Ireland | 416 241 |
| Wales | 416 335 | London | 416 242 |
| Midlands | 416 336 | National Satellite Weather picture | 416 397 |
| East Anglia | 416 337 | | |
| N West | 416 338 | | |
| N. East | 416 339 | | |
| Scotland | 416 340 | | |
| Metfax Marine Inshore leisure forecast | | | 416 398 |

**World City Weather** — The Met Office

153 destinations world wide 5 day forecast

by Phone dial 0336 411216
by Fax (index page) 0336 416333

**Motoring**

| | |
|---|---|
| Europe Country by Country | 0336 401 885 |
| European fuel costs | 0336 401 886 |
| French Motorways | 0336 401 887 |
| Seaport information | 0336 401 882 |
| Disneyland Paris | 0336 401 409 |
| *Le Shuttle* | *0336 401 395* |

**AA Car reports by fax**

new and used car reports from the AA menu of 195 cars 0336 416 399

Dial from your fax handset, you may have to set to poll receive mode

Automobile Association Developments Ltd, Fanum House Priestley Road Basingstoke RG24 9NY

Calls are charged at 50p per minute at all times.

## HOURS OF DARKNESS

TODAY

Sun rises: 7.30 am — Sun sets: 5.01 pm
Moon sets 4.25 am — Moon rises 1.37 pm

Full moon February 11

London 5.01 pm to 7.28 am
Bristol 5.11 pm to 7.37 am
Edinburgh 4.59 pm to 7.54 am
Manchester 5.03 pm to 7.42 am
Penzance 5.26 pm to 7.46 am

TOMORROW

Sun rises: 7.29 am — Sun sets: 5.03 pm
Moon sets 5.17 am — Moon rises 2.22 pm

Full moon February 11

London 5.03 pm to 7.29 am
Bristol 5.12 pm to 7.38 am
Edinburgh 5.01 pm to 7.52 am
Manchester 5.05 pm to 7.40 am
Penzance 5.28 pm to 7.44 am

## HIGH TIDES

| TODAY | AM | HT | PM | HT |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Aberdeen | 10.06 | 3.7 | 10.57 | 3.8 |
| Avonmouth | 5.01 | 10.6 | 4.06 | 10.9 |
| Belfast | 7.49 | 3.1 | 8.25 | 3.2 |
| Cobh | 5.01 | 9.9 | 3.52 | 10.2 |
| Devonport | 2.04 | 4.6 | 2.45 | 4.5 |
| Dover | 7.38 | 5.7 | 8.20 | 5.7 |
| Dublin | 9.35 | 3.8 | 9.02 | 3.8 |
| Falmouth | 1.35 | 4.4 | 2.16 | 4.3 |
| Greenock | 8.48 | 3.0 | 9.50 | 3.0 |
| Harwich | 8.19 | 3.4 | 9.02 | 3.5 |
| Holyhead | 7.21 | 4.8 | 7.51 | 4.9 |
| Hull (Albert Dk) | 2.38 | 7.6 | 3.27 | 7.6 |
| Ilfracombe | 2.25 | 7.4 | 3.06 | 7.6 |
| King's Lynn | 5.43 | 5.4 | 6.32 | 5.4 |
| Leith | 11.34 | 4.8 | - | - |
| Liverpool | 7.57 | 7.9 | 8.30 | 8.1 |
| London Bridge | 6.20 | 6.3 | 7.03 | 6.4 |
| Lowestoft | 6.36 | 2.3 | 6.47 | 2.3 |
| Margate | 5.24 | 4.1 | 9.15 | 4.2 |
| Milford Haven | 2.46 | 5.6 | 3.23 | 5.7 |
| Newhaven | 1.45 | 5.6 | 2.21 | 5.7 |
| Oban | 5.17 | 3.1 | 3.42 | 3.2 |
| Penzance | 1.11 | 4.6 | 1.45 | 4.6 |
| Portland | 2.45 | 1.5 | 3.35 | 1.4 |
| Portsmouth | 8.13 | 4.1 | 8.51 | 4.1 |
| Shoreham | 7.46 | 5.4 | 8.26 | 5.3 |
| Southampton | 7.33 | 3.8 | 8.09 | 3.9 |
| Swansea | 2.40 | 7.8 | 3.16 | 7.9 |
| Tees | 5.06 | 4.7 | 12.47 | 4.8 |
| Wash-Chelkar | 8.16 | 3.6 | 8.59 | 3.7 |

Crown copyright reserved. Heights in metres.

## HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Lossiemouth (Grampian), 12C (54F); lowest day max: Buxton (Derbyshire), 06C (43F); highest rainfall: Tulloch Bridge (Highland) 0.91in; highest sunshine: Cleethorpes, Lincolnshire 6.5hr

NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING
Recycled paper made up 41.4% of the raw material for UK newspapers in the first half of 1997

## FORECAST

☐ **General:** after early rain has cleared southeast England, it will be bright and fresh in most parts. There will be showers, mostly in western Scotland, Northern Ireland, northwest England and the Irish Republic, some of which will be wintry. Wales and western England will see fewer showers but it will become rather cloudy at times. The best of any sunshine will be across East Anglia and eastern England, where it will stay dry. Most parts will be breezy, especially the northwest.

■ **Tonight:** drizzle and strong winds in western and northern Scotland and Northern Ireland. Western parts will be cloudy with drizzle, and eastern areas mainly dry.

☐ **London, SE England, E Anglia:** any rain soon clearing, then mostly dry with sunny spells. Moderate west to southwest wind. Max 9C (48F).

☐ **Cent S England, Midlands:** fresh, with sunny spells and a few showers. Moderate west to southwest wind. Max 9C (48F).

☐ **E, Cent N & NE England:** isolated showers, reasonable sunny spells. Cooler than recently. Moderate to fresh west to southwest wind. Max 9C (48F).

☐ **Channel Isles, SW England:** some sunshine, scattered showers. Moderate to fresh westerly wind. Max 11C (52F).

☐ **Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man:** Sunshine and showers. Moderate to fresh west to southwest wind. Max 9C (48F).

☐ **Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland:** bright, with sunny breaks and a few showers. Moderate to fresh southwest wind. Max 8C (46F).

☐ **SW, NW Scotland, Glasgow, Cent Highlands, Argyll, Northern Ireland:** blustery showers and brief sunny spells. Moderate to fresh west to southwest wind. Max 8C (46F).

☐ **Republic of Ireland:** breezy, showers. Fresh westerly wind. Max 9C (48F).

☐ **Outlook:** cloudy, mild and damp tomorrow. Gales in north and west. Monday will remain mild with rain in the northwest; the southeast will be dry with some sunshine.




## AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

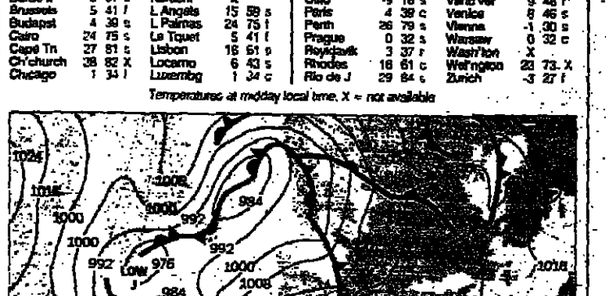
24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

| | Sun hrs | Rain in | Max C | Max F | | | Sun hrs | Rain in | Max C | Max F | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Aberdeen | 1.3 | 0.01 | 9 | 48 | r | Lerwick | 1.1 | 0.06 | 8 | 46 | r |
| Anglesey | - | 0.07 | 9 | 48 | r | Lleuchars | 0.8 | 0.01 | 10 | 50 | r |
| Aspatria | - | 0.02 | 9 | 48 | r | Littlehmptn | 0.1 | - | 9 | 48 | du |
| Aviemore | 0.6 | 0.09 | 9 | 48 | r | London | - | 0.01 | 10 | 50 | c |
| Belfast | - | 0.11 | 9 | 48 | r | Lowestoft | 3.3 | 0.01 | 10 | 50 | b |
| Birmingham | 1.7 | 0.01 | 9 | 48 | sh | Manchester | 1.9 | 0.01 | 9 | 48 | r |
| Bognor Rl | - | - | 9 | 48 | c | Margate | X | | | | |
| Bournem'th | 1.2 | 0.01 | 10 | 50 | b | Minehead | 2.7 | 0.01 | 10 | 50 | b |
| Bristol | 0.2 | 0.01 | 10 | 50 | c | Morecambe | - | 0.02 | 9 | 48 | sh |
| Buxton | 1.1 | 0.06 | 6 | 43 | sh | Newcastle | X | | | | |
| Cardiff | X | 0.01 | 11 | 52 | sh | Newquay | X | - | 11 | 52 | du |
| Clacton | X | | | | | Norwich | 5.7 | - | 10 | 50 | s |
| Cleethorpes | 6.6 | - | 11 | 52 | s | Oxford | 1.4 | 0.01 | 10 | 50 | c |
| Colwyn Bay | X | | | | | Penzance | X | 0.02 | 11 | 52 | sh |
| Cromer | 4.8 | - | 11 | 52 | s | Poole | 0.4 | 0.01 | 11 | 52 | c |
| Dunbar | X | | | | | Prestatyn | X | | | | |
| Eastbourne | - | - | 9 | 48 | c | Ross-o-wye | X | 0.01 | 10 | 50 | c |
| Edinburgh | 1.6 | 0.03 | 11 | 52 | r | Salcombe | X | | | | |
| Eskdalemuir | - | 0.07 | 7 | 45 | sh | Sandn Snd | 0.3 | - | 9 | 48 | c |
| Exmouth | 0.1 | 0.01 | 9 | 48 | c | Scarboro' | 3.3 | 0.01 | 9 | 48 | c |
| Falmouth | - | 0.05 | 10 | 50 | c | Shrewsbury | 0.8 | 0.01 | 9 | 48 | sh |
| Fishguard | 0.1 | 0.04 | 9 | 48 | sh | Skegness | 3.4 | - | 11 | 52 | c |
| Folkestone | X | | | | | Southend | - | - | 9 | 48 | c |
| Glasgow | - | 0.24 | 9 | 48 | r | Southport | X | | | | |
| Guernsey | 0.1 | - | 10 | 50 | c | Southsea | 0.2 | - | 9 | 48 | c |
| Hastings | 0.2 | - | 8 | 46 | c | Stornoway | - | 0.37 | 7 | 45 | r |
| Hayling I. | - | - | 8 | 46 | c | Sunnage | 0.4 | - | 11 | 52 | c |
| Herne Bay | 1.0 | - | 10 | 50 | du | Teignmouth | X | | | | |
| Hove | X | | | | | Tenby | 0.1 | 0.02 | 10 | 50 | g |
| Hunstanton | X | - | 10 | 50 | s | Tiree | 0.1 | 0.41 | 9 | 48 | r |
| Isle-of-man | X | | | | | Torquay | 0.4 | 0.02 | 10 | 50 | c |
| Isle-of-wight | 0.2 | 0.01 | 9 | 48 | c | Tynemouth | X | | | | |
| Jersey | 0.7 | - | 9 | 48 | c | West-s-mare | X | | | | |
| Kinloss | 3.9 | 0.01 | 11 | 52 | s | Weymouth | 0.4 | 0.01 | 11 | 52 | b |
| Leeds | 3.2 | 0.01 | 10 | 50 | s | | | | | | |

## ABROAD

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Ajaccio | 13 | 55 | s | Cologne | 5 | 41 | c | Luxor | 29 | 84 | s |
| Alicante | 17 | 63 | s | Corfu | 17 | 63 | f | Madrid | 10 | 50 | s |
| Alex'dria | 26 | 79 | f | C'chagen | 5 | 41 | f | Majorca | 14 | 57 | d |
| Algiers | 15 | 59 | r | Dublin | 9 | 48 | s | Malaga | 17 | 63 | s |
| Amst'dm | 8 | 46 | s | Dubrovnik | 9 | 48 | c | Malta | 15 | 61 | f |
| Athens | 17 | 63 | f | Faro | 16 | 61 | f | Melb'rne | 24 | 75 | s |
| B Aires | 26 | 79 | f | Florence | 9 | 48 | s | Mexico C | X | | |
| Bahrain | 22 | 72 | s | Frankfurt | 1 | 34 | c | Miami | 21 | 70 | s |
| Bangkok | 33 | 91 | s | Funchal | 16 | 61 | r | Milan | 9 | 48 | s |
| Barbados | 29 | 84 | f | Geneva | 1 | 34 | s | Montreal | -5 | 23 | s |
| Barcelona | 14 | 57 | s | Gibraltar | 17 | 63 | f | Moscow | -10 | 14 | s |
| Beijing | 8 | 46 | s | Helsinki | -15 | 5 | sn | Munich | 1 | 34 | s |
| Beirut | 19 | 66 | f | Hong K | 8 | 46 | r | N Delhi | 18 | 64 | s |
| Belgrade | 2 | 36 | r | Innsbruck | 2 | 36 | s | N York | 2 | 36 | r |
| Berlin | 4 | 39 | c | Istanbul | 12 | 54 | r | Nairobi | 27 | 81 | s |
| Bermuda | X | | | Jeddah | 32 | 90 | s | Naples | 13 | 55 | s |
| Biarritz | 8 | 46 | s | Jo'burg | 27 | 81 | f | Nice | 14 | 57 | s |
| Borde'x | 3 | 37 | s | Karachi | X | | | Oslo | -9 | 16 | s |
| Brussels | 5 | 41 | r | L Angels | 15 | 59 | s | Paris | 4 | 39 | c |
| Budapst | 4 | 39 | s | L Palmas | 24 | 75 | f | Perth | 26 | 79 | s |
| Cairo | 24 | 75 | s | La Tquet | 5 | 41 | r | Prague | 0 | 32 | s |
| Capé Tn | 27 | 81 | s | Lisbon | 16 | 61 | s | Reykjavik | 3 | 37 | r |
| Ch'church | 28 | 82 | X | Locarno | 6 | 43 | s | Rhodes | 18 | 61 | c |
| Chicago | 1 | 34 | r | Luxembg | 1 | 34 | c | Rio de J | 29 | 84 | s |
| | | | | | | | | Riyadh | 28 | 82 | s |
| | | | | | | | | Rome | 12 | 54 | s |
| | | | | | | | | S. Franco | 13 | 55 | r |
| | | | | | | | | Salzburg | 1 | 34 | s |
| | | | | | | | | Santiago | 32 | 72 | c |
| | | | | | | | | Seoul | 5 | 41 | s |
| | | | | | | | | Sing'por | 31 | 88 | r |
| | | | | | | | | Sr'kholm | -4 | 25 | sn |
| | | | | | | | | Strasb'rg | 2 | 36 | s |
| | | | | | | | | Sydney | 28 | 82 | c |
| | | | | | | | | Tangier | 17 | 63 | r |
| | | | | | | | | Tel Aviv | 25 | 77 | s |
| | | | | | | | | Tenerife | 22 | 72 | s |
| | | | | | | | | Tokyo | 8 | 46 | s |
| | | | | | | | | Toronto | -2 | 28 | s |
| | | | | | | | | Tunis | 16 | 61 | c |
| | | | | | | | | Valencia | 12 | 54 | r |
| | | | | | | | | Vanc'ver | 9 | 48 | r |
| | | | | | | | | Venice | 8 | 46 | s |
| | | | | | | | | Vienna | -1 | 30 | s |
| | | | | | | | | Warsaw | 0 | 32 | c |
| | | | | | | | | Wash'ton | X | | |
| | | | | | | | | Wel'ngton | 23 | 73 | X |
| | | | | | | | | Zurich | -3 | 27 | f |

*Temperatures at midday local time. X = not available*




Changes to the chart above from noon: high A will remain slow moving and build; low L will move rapidly towards Iceland; low J will drift north and fill



TORONTO WITH NIAGARA
BA 747 to Toronto on 22 May, 4 July, 31 August or 5,19 September • five nights at Sheraton • city tour • harbour cruise • Niagara with helicopter • theatre • Concorde supersonic to Heathrow £1,999

MONACO GRAND PRIX
Eurostar First Class to Paris on 23 May • city tour • overnight • Concorde to Nice • Monaco Grand Prix seat with luncheon • Heathrow return £1,599

ORIANA & ORIENT-EXPRESS
Orient-Express to Southampton on 28 April • six night Oriana cruise via Madeira and Tenerife to Lisbon • Concorde supersonic to Heathrow £1,999

Concorde to Pisa on 16 May • tour Florence • six night Oriana cruise to Southampton via Ibiza and Gibraltar • Orient-Express return £1,999

Orient-Express to Southampton on 22 May • three night Oriana cruise via Amsterdam • tour Bruges and Brussels • Concorde supersonic return £1,299

NEW GRAND PRINCESS
Five night cruise on the new Grand Princess from Istanbul to Venice on 19 June or 6 August via Ephesus and Athens • Concorde return £1,999

Concorde to Venice on 24 June or 11 August • seven night cruise to Barcelona on the new Grand Princess via Naples, Livorno and Monte Carlo £2,499

QE2 WITH ORIENT-EXPRESS
Orient-Express to Southampton on 10 June • six night QE2 cruise to Tenerife via Lisbon, Cadiz and Lanzarote • Concorde to Heathrow £1,999

Orient-Express to Southampton on 20 July • eleven night Land of the Midnight Sun QE2 cruise via the Norwegian Fjords • Concorde return £2,999

*For our full colour brochure, please telephone:*
0181-992 4477
*or write to*
SUPERLATIVE TRAVEL
43, Woodhurst Road, London, W3 6SS
ABTA V1483

TIMES NEWSPAPERS LIMITED, 1998. Published and printed and licensed for distribution in electronic and all other derivative forms by Times Newspapers Ltd, PO Box 495, Virginia Street, London E1 9BS, telephone 0171-782 5000 and also printed at Kinling Road, Prescot, Merseyside, L34 9HS, telephone 0151-546 2000, Saturday, February 7, 1998. Registered as a newspaper at the Post Office.

هكذا من الاصل



FEATURE



The stroke that silenced Robert Bolt

Page 2

SHOPPING



Rural chic: what to wear in the fresh air

Page 5

PROPERTY



Please let me live here, by Emily Lloyd

Page 13

TRAVEL



Are we there yet? Taking the children on holiday

Pages 24-25

THE TIMES

# WEEKEND

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 7 1998

# British women go to war

CHRIS HARRIS



Liz Ritchie, 21, from Glasgow, pictured when she was serving on the aircraft carrier *HMS Invincible* in the Gulf. The Royal Navy has women officers and ratings on all the fighting ships that are now in the Gulf

**If fighting erupts in Iraq, British forces will have female soldiers in the front line, for the first time, says Kate Muir**

For the first time in the history of British warfare, women will engage in frontline combat if the airstrikes on Iraq go ahead this month. Nearly 150 British women are out in the Gulf on airbases and warships — but unlike those in the war seven years ago, they are now serving as fighter pilots, helicopter observers and aircraft navigators, as well as principal warfare officers on ships.

The hand that historically rocked the cradle will be pressing the red button to launch an Exocet missile, or piloting a Tornado.

Equally, the women on the *HMS Invincible* aircraft carrier, on the frigate *HMS Coventry*, the destroyer *HMS Nottingham* and the others on Royal Air Force bases in Turkey and Saudi Arabia are — just like their male colleagues — sitting targets for Saddam Hussein's wrath, should it be unleashed.

It may be the little war that never happens, but if Iraq's chemical, biological and nuclear weapons sites are "precision bombed", the reaction of Saddam will be unpredictable. The forces know that someone in the habit of invading his neighbours and ordering mass executions of his own family will not baulk at arming a warhead with anthrax — and the British have not yet been inoculated against the killer spores, or other chemical warfare agents. So the atmosphere is tense as British and Americans float in the Gulf in a limbo of uncertainty, waiting to see if the diplomatic big guns fail and their own will be required to go into action.

"We have three female fast-jet pilots who are combat-ready," says an RAF spokesman. "We can't say whether they are in the Gulf: they could be on exercise in the UK, or be mobilised later. We don't give out the names of pilots, male or female, at times like this. Everyone is itching to get out there, whatever their sex." Six Tornados are based at Al Kharj in Saudi Arabia, and another six at Incirlik in southern Turkey, where they have been patrolling the exclusion zone. Twelve women and 177 men are assigned to these bases.

As far as combat roles go, the Royal Navy has women officers and ratings on all fighting ships in the Gulf ships. There are 110 women on *HMS Invincible*, which carries the Harrier bombers that are already flying over Iraqi territory, south of the 33rd Parallel near Baghdad, to enforce the no-fly zone.

The women on *HMS Nottingham* and *HMS Coventry* have been in the Gulf for some time on the Armilla patrol, enforcing trade sanctions. Now they are on 24-hour alert, operating radar and radio to track

Continued on page 3

SHOPPING.....4,5 | FOOD & DRINK....6,7 | GARDENING.....8-10 | PROPERTY.....13-14 | COUNTRY LIFE.....16 | HOME LIFE.....19 | TRAVEL.....23-33 | GAMES.....39,40

Leave it to the last 1440 minutes.

Travellers cheques, insurance and currency from any branch in 24 hours.

NatWest
More than just a bank

If we take your order on a working weekday before 2pm, it will be available for collection from the branch by the next working weekday.
National Westminster Bank Plc, Registered Office: 41 Lothbury, London EC2P 2BP. Registered in England No 929027. Insurance is arranged through National Westminster Insurance Services Limited which is an independent intermediary for a number of insurers under the Association of British Insurers' Code of Practice.

# An affair of the heart in a life full of drama

**_A Man For All Seasons_, _Lawrence of Arabia_ and _Doctor Zhivago_ were all the work of the late Robert Bolt, but his creative efforts were brought to a halt by a heart attack followed by a stroke**



*After his heart attack, Bolt wrote: "deposits of rump steak, butter and the sediments of wines got together in one of the arteries of my heart and held a protest meeting"*

After a 24-hour flight from Paris to Tahiti where he was working with David Lean on a film about the mutiny on *The Bounty*, Robert Bolt landed with a stinging pain in his chest. He staggered back to his apartment and slept for 30 hours. When he woke up, the pain was still there, so he took himself to hospital and saw a local doctor.

"He, an untrustworthy looking *pied noir* from Algeria with silver sideburns, a pencil moustache and sad, bedroom eyes, ejected a hair from his cardiogram and then said that a 'piece of my heart is dead'," Bolt wrote to his children. "I liked the untutored poetry of the phrase but felt I should get a scientifically more sophisticated opinion."

As soon as Bolt told David Lean that he had suffered a heart attack, he was sent to see a specialist in Los Angeles. "There the doctors, for heavy cash consideration, subjected me to various devices rejected by the Lubyanka as inhumane, and confirmed the diagnosis. A piece of my heart is indeed dead and the scar will not be complete until April when they want to see me again.

"The most distinguished and expensive of the three [doctors] told me I had a very strong constitution. I am proud of the strong constitution but a bit humiliated by the dotty self-ignorance which can be unaware of a passing heart attack. It's all very well to be absent-minded, but absent-bodied?"

Bolt now felt able to tell his family and friends what had happened to him. From Los Angeles he wrote a bulletin. He made as light of it as possible: "It seems that on September 2nd or 3rd [1978], *en route* to Papeete, at the midway point of Los Angeles airport, deposits of rump steak, New Zealand butter and the sediments of moderately priced wines got together in one of the arteries of my heart and held a protest meeting."

Relieved that he did not require heart surgery, Bolt returned to Tahiti with a supply of pills and firm instructions to take more exercise, eat more healthily and cut out drinking. The work resumed.

Bolt arrived back in Los Angeles seven months later, in April 1979. He planned to stay for ten days, when he would undergo his medical tests, as well as see his ex-wife Sarah Miles, who had their son Tom with her for Easter.

He went to St John's Hospital in Santa Monica for the first of his tests. The news was appalling. When the doctors told him that he needed a heart bypass he said he would have the operation when he got back to London. But you don't understand, said the doctors, you need to have it immediately. Arrangements were made for Bolt to enter hospital two days later, on Sunday, and undergo emergency surgery on Tuesday morning.

Bolt wrote letters to his family and friends, as if he might die on the operating table. Debbie Condon, an old flame, was invited to lunch in England when they would share "a glass of fat-free whey and an organically grown lettuce". Julie Laird, his research assistant, was offered a share in a nut cutlet.

"Robert was very frightened," said his friend Fernando Ghia, who had produced his film *Lady Caroline Lamb*, "and after I left him I went home to bed. I was woken at seven by a phone call from the doctor who told me that the surgery had gone well. I said, 'But the operation isn't until 8.30am.' Then the doctor told me that he had had a heart attack at midnight and they decided to operate straight away. He had a triple bypass."

Bolt's son Ben remembers: "The doctor in LA called and asked if I needed to come to the States. I said I didn't and he said fine, but if I did, now would be a good time. I thought he might die. I went straight to the airport. Dad was sitting up in bed having had the operation. He had this great dressing on his chest and tubes everywhere, but he seemed fine, articulate and not drugged."

The next day Ben Bolt was having dinner with Michael Caine and his family when a call came through from the hospital. "We were told he'd had a stroke," said Ben. "They explained that damage had been done to his brain. I was so shocked and confused, I couldn't continue the conversation, so Michael took the phone. We went over to the hospital and Dad was unconscious. The doctor thought that some tissue had broken away during the operation and lodged itself in the base of the brain which caused the stroke."

When Bolt emerged from his coma he was unable to move or speak. "After a week," said Ben, "Dad developed a clear method of communication. He could move his head or put on a mock pained expression if he disapproved of something. So whenever someone asked if they could visit him I would check with him."

When Sarah Miles bumped into David Lean at the hospital the atmosphere was frosty: "Do you feel a little responsible?" she asked. "No more than you must feel," retorted Lean, "he never got over you." "Touché!" said Miles.

Sarah Miles found her own visits to the hospital traumatic and she quickly sensed that she was regarded as an outsider by Bolt's family, his friends and his doctor. "Sarah was made to feel unwelcome," said Ben. "I was still regarded by Robert's family and friends as the scarlet woman who had ruined his life," said Miles. "I felt they all hated me."

Bolt possessed an active mind within an inert body. Words had been his life, his livelihood; everyone who knew him remembered the arguments, the piercing analysis, the wit, the way he would wolf down his food at dinner parties and have the floor to himself while everybody carried on eating. That was now a thing of the past. His first life had ended.

He had tried facing the wall, urging death on himself. But nothing happened: he was just looking at a blank wall. And then, one day, as Ben came into the room, Robert uttered his first word in a month. "Bendhi!" he cried, and then he bellowed, "F****g hell!"

Bolt's second life began on 18 May 18, 1979, when he arrived back in London. His friends thought it a miracle he was still alive: the heart surgery and the ensuing stroke would surely have killed anyone with a less sturdy constitution.

From Los Angeles, he went straight to the National Hospital for Nervous Diseases in Queen's Square, London, where he remained for two months. Speech therapy and physiotherapy began at once. Bolt had decided to fight and he did so largely because of his love for his son, Ben, who was the last person he saw before his stroke and the first after it.

"It was very difficult to understand exactly what he was thinking because his speech was so impaired," said Gillian Harrison, Bolt's secretary. . "He was tailoring his thoughts to what he thought he could say, so what came out was very simple. He found 'yes' difficult, so he'd say, 'of course'.

"He kept saying that he had to tell Phil Hurricane something. No one knew who Phil Hurricane was. So the doctor asked him to write it down and Phil Hurricane became Gill Harrison. That sort of confusion happened a lot."

One of Bolt's regular visitors was Julie Laird, his research assistant. "The sister came up to me and said, 'If you do have any influence over him, could you persuade him to say bugger instead of f**k? We want to make him practice his Bs.' So from then on, every time I went to see him, we had to say 'bugger' about four times."

Because the Old Manor in Devon was too remote for Bolt's therapy to be conducted, as planned, by friends and professional therapists based in London, it was put on the market. Ben decided to take a year off work and dedicate himself to his father's recovery. His girlfriend, Jo Ross, fell in with the plan and put her own acting career on hold. Bolt's friend Ann Queensberry suggested that they rent a house in Doneraile Street, Fulham, and live there together as an *ad hoc* family.

"I was certain he would pull through," she said. "There was intelligence in his eyes. It's just that he couldn't get the words out." Within weeks of arriving at Doneraile Street, Bolt announced that he was desperately in need of a holiday. After one further medical check-up, everyone went to Ann Queensberry's farmhouse in the South of France.

For a fortnight they laughed, ate, drank and swam in the sea, rejoicing in the progress that Bolt had made. But then one night, without warning, he suffered a heart attack. Fortunately, one of France's leading heart surgeons, Dr Couve, was on holiday in the area and he was summoned to the hospital in St Tropez. Bolt's truculence, which [illegible] from the start we did puzzles with him. We had to make his [illegible] again. And it gradually started to work."

delighted the French [illegible] nurses, found it [illegible]

postcard to Julie Laird: "Well there — see I am at the Hospital for 'Nervous Disorders' at St Tropez. Not at all painful — except for the hideous French voices screaming up and down the upstairs corridor."

He was as strong as an ox, except that he could barely walk or talk. Amazingly, the heart attack seemed to have had very little effect, beyond giving everyone a scare. But now, back at 34 Doneraile Street, Ben and Ann needed sound advice and a strategy, a way of giving him constant speech therapy and mental exercise. "Bob was very frightened," said Ann Queensberry. "He'd pretend he could read but the book would be upside-down. He started to type but what he wrote never made sense. It was heartbreaking to turn the pages. But

With no prospect of using his right hand again, Bolt taught himself to write with his left — a slow, deliberate and jagged signature developed from "Bob" to "ROB" to "Robert" to "Robert Bolt" and sometimes "Roberto".

Each day at Doneraile Street began with Robert shouting "Oy!" which meant that either Ben or Jo or Ann would have to get up and help him to the bathroom. "Ben and I would be lying in bed thinking, well, who's it going to be this time," said Jo. "And if no one went at once we'd hear the stomp, stomp of his stick on the floor. There was a rota of people coming in every day to try and stretch his brain, to give him mental therapy."

Another friendly therapist was the comic actor Kenneth Williams. Jo said: "Kenny would arrive in a taxi with this big black driver, and they'd all go off with their maps, the idea being that Bob would have to find their way home. Of course, it didn't quite work out and the driver would usually ring up to say they'd all got lost."

When R.D. Laing showed up he wanted to give Bolt LSD but Ben said to him, "I think Dad has enough problems, thank you. If he wanted some sugar, we would never say the word for him but wait until he said it himself. Some people thought we were really rough on him."

Bolt was making considerable progress. He had evolved a pattern of speech which could be understood by those closest to him. It was the child's equivalent of writing: it was not joined-up speaking, which was all but impossible. It was a way of talking which sep-ar-ated ev-ery word and ev-ery syll-able, laced with a Mancunian accent.

His handwriting had also improved and an operation to sever a tendon in his right ankle had increased his mobility. He delighted in going to restaurants and regularly went to the cinema and the theatre.

Now that Ben and Jo had returned to their own flat in Kensington, Bolt decided he should put his new house in order. In the Bolt scheme of things this meant getting married. His history proved that he was a constant husband and that he needed whatever security marriage offers. Ann Queensberry was as constant as he was, a friend for 25 years, and both of them had shared the pain of a separation and a divorce. One evening he said to Ann, "I wonder why we've never married."

"I imagine it's because you never wanted to," said Ann. "Well, I think we should do it," said Bolt.

● *Extract from* Robert Bolt, Scenes from Two Lives *by Adrian Turner, just published by Hutchinson at £20. Readers may obtain a copy from* The Times *bookshop (0990 134459) for £20 inc p&p.*

CINEMA INTERNATIONAL



David Lean lunching on the beach during *Ryan's Daughter*

LNS



Bolt with Sarah Miles and their son Thomas in 1973. The couple were divorced and later remarried. In 1980 Bolt married Ann Queensberry, his longtime friend

ADRIAN TURNER



حكذا من الاصل





# 'How will the public react to the sight of limbless ex-servicewomen?'

JOHN GARTHWAITE



The Cenotaph, 1996, when men and women naval ratings were first integrated on parade

CROWN COPYRIGHT



A lieutenant from the 32nd Royal Artillery in the Gulf in 1991. Behind her is a camouflaged artillery weapon

**Continued from page 1**

the Iraqis. If it comes to action stations, they will be loading explosives into the ship's magazines and firing. For British women, this may be the first taste of combat. There were 20 women in the war zone on *HMS Brilliant* in the Gulf War in 1991, but the ship was not involved in battle. The rest of the 1,000 or so British women were kept behind the front, although the presence of Scud high-technology missiles blurred the battle lines.

For American women, combat is old news — 11 came home in bodybags from the Gulf last time, and 33,000 were involved in the conflict. Many were injured in Scud attacks, one helicopter pilot was killed, and Major Rhonda Cornum, a flying surgeon, was shot down and became the Gulf's first female prisoner of war.

Although the British are willing to go into battle, they are less keen to brave the media. The Navy refused to allow us to talk by telephone to the women on battleships. "It [interviewing women] causes serious dissatisfaction.," said the press officer. "There should be no difference in the way men and women are treated." So we asked to talk to men, too: "It's still no." The Colonel Blimps in Whitehall were even more intransigent. Fortunately, the Pentagon came to the rescue. "I'll just fax you a copy of our Web site on women in the US Navy, plus our Gulf Web site," said the American press office.



Men and women at work in the Ops Room of *HMS Invincible*

AVIATION PHOTOGRAPHS



Female guards patrol the decks of *HMS Edinburgh*

There are 500 women — 10 per cent of the crew — on the aircraft carrier *USS Nimitz*. They include Petty Officer Laurie Pieper, 32, a hull technician. During a telephone call, she said she had been at sea for five months, but work had been particularly tough recently as the ship's fighters patrolled the no-fly zone.

"Whatever Saddam Hussein does influences what we do," said Pieper, who has 11 years' experience in the US Navy. But, she said, the mission comes first and she had no qualms about going into battle: "This is a well-trained ship, capable of anything. Nobody is worried."

Petty Officer Jessica Spears, 22, is a naval firefighter on the same ship. She has left her husband behind in Virginia. "I spent my first wedding anniversay out here, and my husband's birthday and my birthday," she said. "I write to him, but you run out of things to say when you're at sea."

With women on the front line already a *fait accompli* in the American and British navies and air forces, they risk not only death in battle but being taken prisoner of war, something which plays on the public's mind. RAF women who are likely to end up behind enemy lines attend the same course as men, "Conduct after Capture", which simulates or discusses all the worst possibilities, from interrogation to torture and rape — both male and female.

Cornum broke both arms when she was shot down but was still kissed and fondled by an Iraqi soldier in the back of a truck. When she yelled, his superiors ordered him to desist. Thereafter, she was treated normally and given basic medical care. "It ranks as unpleasant, that's all," she said of the assault. "It wasn't disabling and it wasn't going to prevent me getting out of there, so it wasn't important. There's a phenomenal amount of focus on this for the women but not for the men."

Less dangerous, but also a big headline-grabber, is the question of sexual relations within the forces, from harassment to adultery. *HMS Brilliant* produced a crew pregnancy and an adulterous liaison on its first trial with women seven years ago; there have been half a dozen sexual harassment cases since the forces become more mixed in the 1990s, and internal reports as late as 1994, in the case of the Navy, showed that men were "unreconstructed" in their attitudes.

In America, whole military bases have been investigated for "hazing" — vicious initiation rites — which were particularly cruel to women, and dozens of senior men have been discharged for harassment. Then there was the case of Lt Kelly Flynn, the first female B52 bomber pilot, who was given a "general" discharge after an affair with a married colleague.

> 'Combat is unpleasant. Men don't want to do it either'

Initial suggestions, by those who wished to keep the forces segregated, that camaraderie would fall apart with the entry of women seem to be largely unfounded. People behave much as they do working in civilian offices.

In some ways, the British forces' reluctance to allow women to be interviewed in a potential war zone is understandable. The first women to qualify as fighter pilots were fêted by the media, to their own embarrassment and the annoyance of their male colleagues. Flt Lt Melanie Rolfe, speaking for the RAF, said: "There were teething problems created by constantly drawing attention to female aircrew, who just wanted to do the same job as men — quietly."

That said, if the role models are kept under wraps, they will be of little use in recruitment, and the British forces, with a shortfall of 5,000 staff, are relying increasingly on women. Women make up 13 per cent of the three forces, compared with half that seven years ago. The RAF press office pointed out the usefulness of women: "More than physical size, you need intelligence to cope with the myriad inputs when you're flying at 600 knots at night. It's hard enough just avoiding flying into a hill, never mind dropping a bomb."

However, the combat debate is by no means over, at least for the British Army, which still bans women from the tank corps and infantry. "We're keeping it under review," a spokesman said. "We're very mindful of public opinion. In any of the forces it's dangerous, but the difference is that hand-to-hand combat is very unpleasant. A lot of men don't want to do it either. There's a lot of mutilation, a lot of death."

Defence Secretary George Robertson last year announced a wide-ranging review of women in the armed forces, saying that more jobs should be opened up. The RAF has all but 2 per cent of posts available to women, the Navy has 78 per cent, but the Army gets low marks with has fewer than half of all its jobs open.

The Army spokesman said it was really a question of whether British society as a whole was ready to see women at the sharp end of combat. "How will the public react to limbless ex-servicewomen in The Mall on Remembrance Sunday?" he asked.




NEWS SPORT WHAT'S ON FUN KNOWLEDGE MONEY SHOPPING TALK INTERNET

"This is a truly modern online service...delivering topical and relevant content."

"The integration between its own content and the web is seamless."

"LineOne is an ideal option for home users."

"For a first-time user, LineOne is a valuable introduction to the Net."

Before you choose an Internet service, check our references.

| | |
|---|---|
| LineOne | 15 stars |
| Compuserve | 15 stars |
| AOL | 12 stars |
| MSN | 12 stars |

When Internet Magazine reported on the leading online service providers recently, LineOne was described in glowing terms. After less than a year in business we came top of their star ratings table. Next time we're determined that LineOne will be indisputably the best. LineOne is free for the first month, and costs as little as £4.95 a month after that. Hardly a high price for such a highly-rated service.

Try LineOne and the Internet FREE. Call 0800 111 210.

www.LineOne.net

It's what you want to know

Calls are charged at BT local rates. Different rates may apply to calls from non-BT networks.

# A heart in the right place

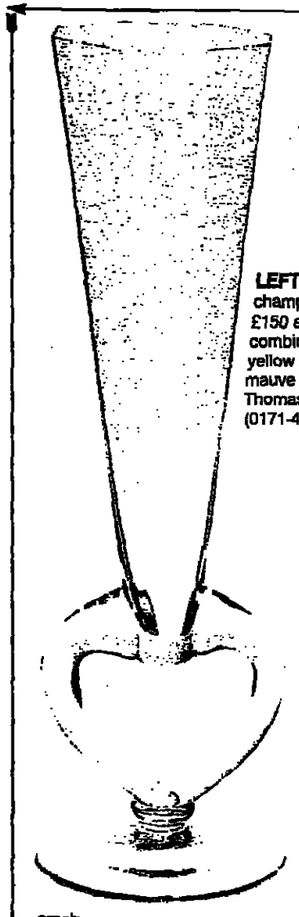
**VALENTINE GIFTS**

I always know what to give Jane, the love of my life, on Valentine's Day. Each year, on February 14, I give her exactly the same thing: nothing. I don't give her nothing in a cold, indifferent manner, you understand. I give her nothing with feeling. I hold out my hands and say: "Beautiful woman, to mark another year of loving you, I give you all that I own." Which, alas, is nothing.

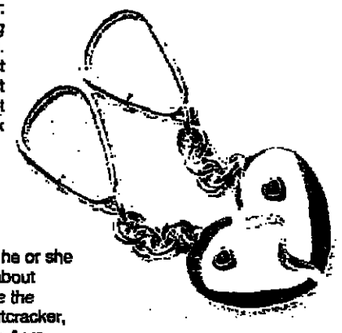
This year, in anticipation of my annual gift of nothingness, my beloved presented me with a list of Valentine presents that I might consider buying for her. One of her suggestions was membership of Amnesty International. (What was she trying to say? That life with me is torture?) Another was a weekend away. (Can I come too?) Most touching of all was her wish to sponsor a child, which I'm happy to do as long as I don't have to pay more than 20 pence a mile.

The best Valentine's gifts are the most personal. I finally decided on a copy of *The Guardian* from February 14, 1981. This newspaper contains the Valentine message that sealed our fate. When I read: "David, you don't know it, but you are much loved", I knew instantly that these words came from Jane. I was wrong, actually. Jane didn't buy *The Guardian* and wasn't remotely interested in me. But my foolish error gave me the courage to tell her I loved her and we've been together for 17 years. I wonder if the other David had as much luck.

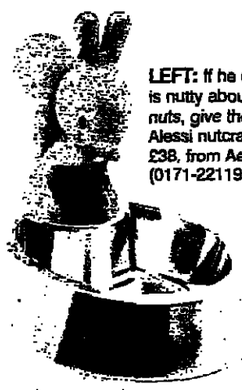
DAVID BOWKER



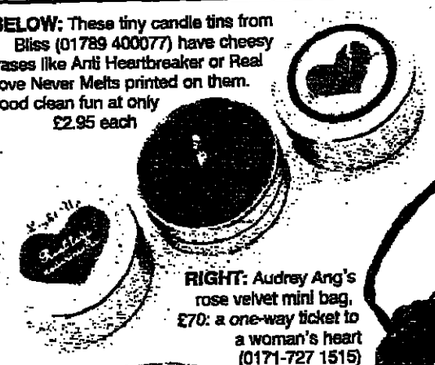
**LEFT:** Heart champagne glass, £150 each, in a combination of yellow and mauve from Thomas Goode (0171-499 2823)



**RIGHT:** A real heart-breaker: sterling silver heart key ring from Asprey (0171-493 6767). It is not the cheapest Valentine treat, at £335, but as it splits into two, you might get one half back



**LEFT:** If he or she is nutty about nuts, give the Alessi nutcracker, £38, from Aero (0171-2211950)



**BELOW:** These tiny candle tins from Bliss (01789 400077) have cheesy phrases like Anti Heartbreaker or Real Love Never Melts printed on them. Good clean fun at only £2.95 each



**RIGHT:** Audrey Ang's rose velvet mini bag, £70: a one-way ticket to a woman's heart (0171-727 1515)




**ABOVE:** The Lovely clock, £20 (incl p&p), made from limestone, is eye-catching in red and gold. From Baskerville (01621 783982)




**ABOVE:** Lomo, the latest retro Russian camera, £85 plus £4 p&p, is made specifically for shooting in low light and comes with a special love film. Call 0171-837 8835



**RIGHT:** Take the leap with your love with Red Letter Days (0800 634 5555), which organises tandem sky dives. Fall from 10,000 feet for £225 each



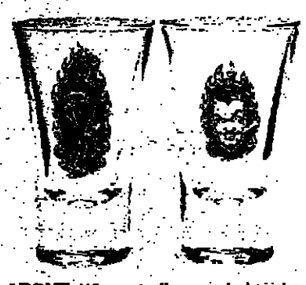
**RIGHT:** A single heart bracelet, £50, comes in a crack-it-open plaster heart, £10.50, from Stephen Einhorn (0171-359 4977)



**RIGHT:** Break through the prickles with a spiky rubber heart-shaped cushion, £39.50, from Skin Two (0181-968 9692)



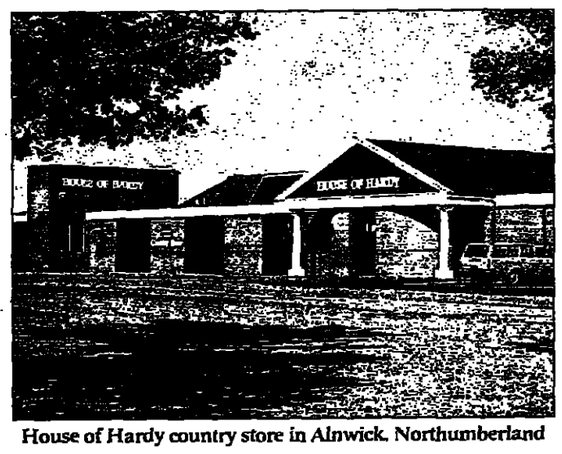
**ABOVE:** Bath Tub Tea, £4, contains four jumbo tea bags for the bath. For the perfect love spell, add one fragrant bag to the tub, allow the rose scent to brew, then add two steamy bodies. Call Whittard (0800 525 092) for stockists



**ABOVE:** Why not offer your beloved a tipple of Dutch courage in a saucy shot glasses, £5 each. From the wicked folk at Skin Two (as left)

Photographs by Des Jenson
Research by Mary Ann Percy

# The best tackle in the business




House of Hardy country store in Alnwick, Northumberland

CHRISTOPHER BARKER



Jack Charlton (centre) tests the latest carbon-fibre rod with House of Hardy product manager Andy Murray (left) and manager David Bullock

These days Jack Charlton is more interested in fishing than football, says **Michael Cable**

Jack Charlton will be out there among the crowd when the second Countryside Rally converges on London next month. "It is something I feel very strongly about," says the former England World Cup hero and lifelong countryman, renowned for his love of fishing and shooting. "I don't believe that people in cities should be allowed to vote on what happens in the country because they know nothing about it."

This comment brings nods of approval in the rod room at House of Hardy, the Rolls-Royce of fishing-tackle manufacturers. Here, the angular and craggily built Charlton is demonstrating his casting skills with the very latest and lightest carbon-fibre rod, sending the line out with unerring accuracy to land just above our photographer's lens.

Fishing has been a passion from a young age. Growing up in the Northumbrian mining village of Ashington, just down the road from House of Hardy's Alnwick headquarters, he and his mates would go off on their bikes to Cresswell and Newbiggin to fish for cod and mackerel off the rocks, or they hid under the trees alongside the River Wansbeck, trying to catch trout with a stick, a piece of string and a worm.

The idea of owning a prized Hardy rod or reel would certainly never have occurred to him in those urchin days. "I can't really afford 'em even now," he grumbles, glancing at the £470 price tag on the new Hardy Elite in his hand.

Like Purdey shotguns — which Charlton owns too — Hardy fishing tackle is renowned as among the best in the globe.

The company has been going 120 years, and anglers make special trips to from all over the world to the shops in Pall Mall and Alnwick, where the factory complex also houses a museum, tracing the company history back to its beginnings in 1872. On display are examples of classic rods and reels for which collectors have been known to pay up to £18,000 at auction.

The company has been awarded ten royal warrants this century. Today, its client list includes the Queen Mother, the Prince of Wales, Eric Clapton, Nick Faldo and Billy Connolly. "I drop in whenever I'm passing and I show my friends around the museum," says "Big Jack", who, with his brother Bobby, was a member of the 1966 World Cup winning team before becoming a manager of Middlesbrough, Sheffield Wednesday, Newcastle and the Republic of Ireland.

**my favourite shop**

Charlton owns quite a few Hardy rods among a collection so extensive that he long ago lost count. "I've got so much gear I could open my own tackle shop," he adds.

His collection is spread around his various houses — sea-fishing tackle at his holiday home in Filey on the North Yorkshire coast, trout rods at his farmhouse in the Yorkshire Dales, where he fishes the Ure, and an all-purpose selection at his home in the countryside outside Newcastle, which he shares with his wife Pat.

"From there it's only 15 minutes' drive to Whittledene or Hallington, where I can go for an hour's fishing at the end of the day," he says contentedly. "And since the industry has gone, and with it the pollution, the Tyne is one of the best salmon rivers in England."

He also has a cottage at Ballina in Co Mayo, which he bought after his appointment as manager of the Republic of Ireland, who he took to two World Cup Finals. With the Moy running just 150 yards from his back door, it is his idea of paradise: "The most beautiful estuary you've ever seen," he sighs.

The joy of fishing is, to him, simple: "You can completely wipe the world away. I never give anything else a thought from the moment I set my rods up and go to the river. I've always been a country person at heart. And I believe that the countryside should be policed by people who understand and like it. That's why I'm such a strong supporter of the countryside movement and why I'll be in London on March 1."

Even so, he is wary of being too vociferous in his criticism, especially in the hunting debate. "I have taken a lot of stick in the past," he says sadly. "It culminated in people throwing glass on to the pitch when I was manager of Newcastle."

He says bitterly: "Daft people do silly things. There's nobody I know in the countryside movement who's daft, but there's a lot of people against it who are."

Although he is 62 and has retired, he is still much in demand for after-dinner speaking. He doesn't miss soccer, he says. He has turned down several management offers and, although he thinks England have a real chance of winning, he has no plans to go to France for the World Cup this summer. "I'd rather go fishing in Ireland," he says.

● *House of Hardy country store, Alnwick, Northumberland NE66 2PF (01665 510027). Open Mon-Fri 9am-5pm, Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 1.30pm-5pm (March to November only).*

## GADGETS

THOSE outdoor types who suffer from cold toes should investigate the Hotronic Footwarmer. Although intended for ski boots, it is suitable for anywhere Jack Frost may threaten.

The Hotronic warms the feet with two insoles, which can be cut to fit your ski and walking boots or fishing waders. The soles are powered by a small, rechargeable Ni-cad battery pack which clips to the outside of the boot. Discreet, flat



Hotronic Footwarmer

wires run from battery to sole.

There are four heat settings but it is difficult to discern much difference between them. But you certainly notice the difference when you turn off the Hotronic. The battery packs last around nine hours.

Carrying wet ski boots is not easy, especially when you are wearing thick gloves. The Ski Boot Carrier is a T-shaped handle which firmly grips two boots for easy transport.

TIM WAPSHOTT

● *Hotronic Footwarmer, £99.95, and Ski Boot Carrier, £3.99, both from Snow & Rock (01932 570770).*

## SHOP WATCH

■ Giftware wholesalers **Bombay Duck** spawned the craze for bright aluminium accessories. Now it has launched a mail-order catalogue (£3), with essentials you never knew you needed, like a zeppelin-shaped light pull or hippie-chic flower knobs (£3.50 each). The Monday to Friday order line is on 0181-964 8881.

■ Serious art buyers with no time for browsing should investigate art dealers **Davies & Tooth**'s new buying service. It will trawl its vast visual library for possible buys, from experimental graduate media to the work of Royal Academicians. Find it at 32 Dover Street, London W1 (0171-409 1516).

■ **Betty Jackson** fans should bag themselves a copy of the **Freemans** spring/summer 1998 catalogue (0800 900200). Her capsule collection includes ribbed sweaters, sleeveless dresses and easy pants — super-affordable and very easy to wear.

■ The new **Back 2** shop is "at the cutting edge of back-care technology," according to owner Guy Cinnamon. Try the Ultimate Massage Chair (£2,996) for a spot of leg vibration, or the Egosleep Bed. Trained staff will advise; consultations are free. Back 2, 28 Wigmore Street, London W1 (0171-935 0351, or call 0800 374604 for mail order).

■ Get your Valentine sorted by phone. Try **Undercover's** Be My Valentine stamped condom covers in purple or red, £4.50 (0181-871 2529); **Penhaligon's** shocking pink new perfume, Love Potion No 9 (Penhaligon's By Request 0800 716108); or **Forever Flowering's** flower ring crowned with passion fruits, from £55 (0181-392 9929).

■ UPDATE: **Modern Living**, Manchester's answer to the Conran Shop, opens a second shop next week at 14 St Mary Street (0161-819 2880). . . **The Iron Bed Company**, makers of affordable high-quality iron-framed beds, opens its eighth shop on February 12. The shop will be at 21 Upper Parliament Street, Nottingham (01159 599100).

JUDITH WILSON

هكذا من الاصل



THE TIMES WEEKEND · SATURDAY FEBRUARY 7 1998

Weekending in the country needn't mean muddy overalls; **Lisa Grainger** explains how to combine comfort with style

# Townies have a field day with tweed





Grey cotton and silk twinset: top, £65; cardigan, £120, Scapa, Browns, W1 (0171-637 1450). Purple silk skirt, £35, Warehouse (0171-278 3498). Fair Isle hat, £19.50, The Scotch House, SW1 (0171-581 2151)

Khaki cotton shirt, £50, French Connection, W1, and branches nationwide (0171-399 7200). Stone stretch-cotton flat-front trousers, £75, Whistles, W1 (0171-487 4484). Fine check wool jacket, £285, yellow scarf, £12.50, The Scotch House, as left



Coat, £120, Diesel, WC2 (0171-497 5543). Sweater, £135, Strenesse, Selfridges, W1 (0171-823 3799). Trousers, £145, Whistles, as above



Cardigan, £49.99, Kookaï (0171-937 4411). Dress, £179, Nicole Farhi, W1 (0171-499 8368). Scarf, £12.50, The Scotch House, as above. Beret, £7.50, Hat Shop, E1 (0171-247 1120). Boots, £74.99, Ravel (0171-436 3126)

At this time of year everyone needs a break — an escape from the daily drudgery, the grey skies, the cold. As the interiors expert Ilse Crawford says in her new suedette-covered book, *Sensual Home*, we all need "time to be slow, to dream, to read. One of the biggest luxuries in modern life is unscheduled, uncommitted time. It's not wasted. Your brain needs it to come up with new ideas."

According to the British Tourist Authority, we are more likely than ever to go away for country breaks; in January to September 1997, 28.6 million one-to-three-day holidays were taken in the UK — 15 per cent more than 1996.

Although most of us can't afford separate outfits for country jaunts, we tend to dress in a different way. Lucille Lewin, owner of the Whistles fashion chain, says she makes a real effort to dress appropriately. "There is nothing worse than the sight of a Londoner in the countryside, looking obviously overdressed and over made-up," she says.

Comfort is key. Monty Saul, the director of Mulberry, says her jeans and a jumper are favourites because they make her feel "relaxed and happy". However, she acknowledges that "women also need to feel confident that they look stunning", and do not want to forsake elegance completely.

Most women who travel frequently have favourites that go with them. Lewin says hers are a Pashmina shawl ("I always find country houses are underheated"), a cashmere vest ("black — even in the country, I am a dark dresser) and a cotton rib sweater ("fantastic as you can wear layers underneath").

The joy of being a countrysider for just a weekend is that you *are* an outsider and so are expected to dress like one. You don't have to look like you have been herding flocks or plucking grouse, and can forsake the apparel of true greenies — wellies, waxed jackets and Fair Isle jumpers — for that of the townie abroad. Tweed is becoming increasingly popular; as well as being relatively thornproof, shower-resistant and windproof, the fabric has become fashionable again. Several designers — including Vivienne Westwood, who has always used Harris tweed in her collections — will include it in their 1998 autumn/winter collections.

In addition, a £2-million marketing campaign, launched in American *Vogue* this month, will try to promote tweed as 1998's new "sexy" fabric. Among those designers being targeted are Ralph Lauren, Katharine Hamnett and Calvin Klein.

British companies known for traditional country wear are also taking into account younger clients. Daks, Mulberry and Aquascutum have joined the ranks of trendy designers, producing ranges which are contemporary in look and feel.

Scratchy wools, for example, are being mixed with cashmere and silk at Aquascutum; Scapa has produced a stretch tweed trouser suit and cashmere-wool sweaters, as well as fabrics which, says Scapa owner Brian Redding, "layer well, often cocooned under sheepskins".

The great expanses of mud, draughty houses, incomprehensible natives and strange clothes may put the trendy young urbanite off going to the country, but with the new ranges of edgy, modern clothes on offer, there is no excuse. It is time to head out into space.

Hair and make-up: **Sally Kvalheim** for Jo Hansford (0171-495 7774). Styling: **Amandip Uppal**

## THREE OF A KIND

**IF YOU are going to splash out on traditional country wear, why not complete the outfit with a leather weekend bag. Here are three of the best. LG**



Dark brown mock-croc bag, £489, J&M Davidson, 62 Ledbury Road, W11 (0171-243 2089)



Large brown leather Digby bag, £850, Mulberry, 41-42 New Bond Street, W1 (0171-491 3900)



Checked leather bag, £389, Harrods, Knightsbridge, SW3 (0171-730 1234)

# We're having a fino time

**Sherry is shaking off its granny image and becoming the tipple of the moment, says Mary Ann Percy**



PETER NICHOLLS

The sherry importer Patrick Sandeman: "People don't realise that you can drink sherry all year round as an alternative to wine"

After many years of playing the poor relation to wine, sherry is fighting back. The fortified wine, traditionally the preferred tipple of grandmothers, vicars and tramps, is moving out of the home (and out of the brown paper bag) and into the swinging bars and restaurants. Some say it may even come to challenge the "wine with a meal" mentality.

Moro, a Spanish-Moroccan restaurant in London, sells a staggering amount of sherry to customers. "One in three drinks sold at the bar is sherry," says Mark Sainsbury, the co-owner. "It has become very popular with the young, hip Clerkenwell set, who regularly come in for a cold fino sherry."

So what has led to the revival of a drink that most people had consigned to the furthest reaches of the drinks cabinet? Patrick Sandeman, a sherry enthusiast, thinks he has the answer.

A London-based Spaniard, Mr Sandeman is director of the independent wine importers Lea & Sandeman. His uncle, Miguel Valdespino, owns and manages the Valdespino winery in the sherry-producing district of Jerez, in south-west Spain — a winery which has been running since 1311.

"Sherry producers are no longer allowed to include the word 'sherry' on their bottles unless it comes from Jerez," he says. "It is a high-quality product and people do not realise that it can be used as an alternative to wine all year round."

Annette Duce, Fortnum & Mason's wine buyer, agrees that sherry is hauling itself back into fashion. She says: "In 1996 our sherry sales increased by 38 per cent, followed in 1997 by a further increase of 12 per cent, because more people are looking at sherry as an alternative to wine, and Spanish cuisine is popular."

The pale palomino is the principal grape used for good sherries. The chalkier the soil, the higher the quality. Sherry spends a minimum of three years in oak casks developing its flavour. A good fino will be between four and seven years old, whereas an oloroso may mature for between 25 and 90 years. The Valdespino winery makes a pungent, amontillado called Coliseo (£20), which is 90 years old. Unlike wine, sherry is encouraged to oxidise in the cask to concentrate the flavour.

Mr Sandeman believes the downmarket image of sherry has not been helped by pubs serving it badly. He says: "Sherry should never be served in a tiny schooner filled to the brim, as is often the case. It should be served in a wine glass, preferably a Spanish *copita* [similar to a champagne flute] and half-filled. This allows the sherry to breathe.

"Apart from that there are no hard and fast rules about how sherry should be drunk," he says. "If you are drinking a fino, it is better to serve it with ice than have it warm, but it will dilute the flavour. Stronger sherries, such as oloroso, can be made into a long drink by adding soda."

Although sherry is a wine, it does not age well in the bottle. "Sherry will go off once it has been opened," he says. "Finos especially should be drunk within two or three sittings. Opening a bottle at Christmas and keeping it in the cupboard for another year is not recommended."

> 'Sherry goes well with Thai and Chinese'

But can sherry be drunk like wine, matched to type of food and time of day?

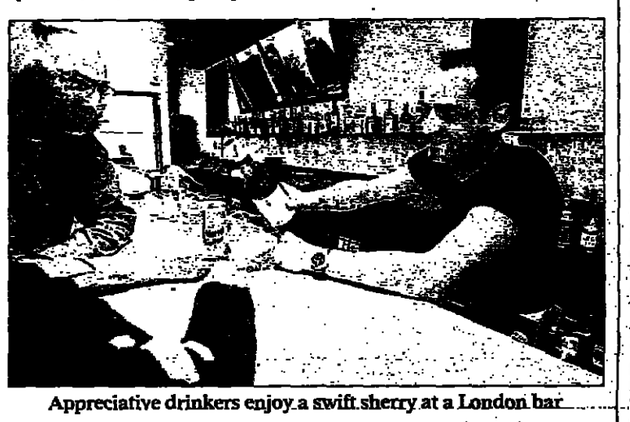
At Moro they know their olorosos from their amontillados, and I started the meal with braised artichokes on toast and two types of sherry: a fino and a manzanilla. Both are light in colour and delicate in taste. "Fino is a popular sherry," Mr Sandeman says. "It goes well with cured meat like ham or chorizo, goat's cheese, salted almonds, Thai dishes or as a flavouring in Chinese cooking. A splash of fino can transform a bloody mary or a tinned consommé. Manzanilla is like a light fino. It is dry and salty — perfect for summer."

A chilled fino sherry made a welcome change to the usual glass of chardonnay and brought through the flavour of the artichokes.

As my main course of pot-roasted chicken with pine nuts arrived, Mr Sandeman suggested a medium-bodied dry oloroso or a full-bodied dry amontillado. Both were darker than the aperitifs and had a bigger, nuttier flavour. As well as complementing chicken, they would be good with seafood, especially fried fish. "Sherry cuts through the taste of fried food, so it works well with oriental dishes," he says. When the dessert arrived — ice-cream with raisins soaked in a sweet, rich oloroso — my attention turned from the ice-cream to concentrate on the sherry. "My grandmother used to make this dessert and I passed on the recipe to Moro," Mr Sandeman says proudly. "Old oloroso can stand up to chocolate, which tends to kill most white dessert wines."

Mr Sandeman pointed to his gleaming James Bond-style BMW motorbike in front of the restaurant. "I take my daughter to school on it. She loves it." Perhaps if 007 had asked for sherry instead of a dry martini, we might all have been getting sherried-up well before now.

● *The Sherry Institute of Spain has a stand at the International Festival of Fine Wine and Food, October 8-11 (0171-486 0101). Moro, 34/36 Exmouth Market, London EC1R 4QE (0171-833 8336). Lea & Sandeman, 301 Fulham Road, London SW10 9QH (0171-376 4767).*



Appreciative drinkers enjoy a swift sherry at a London bar

## Know your sherries

**BUYING**

- Jerez sherry is the best.
- Check on the label that the sherry was bottled in Spain. If it has been shipped, oxidisation may occur.
- When buying fino, look for a minimum of 16.5 per cent alcohol. Quality reduces as alcohol drops.
- Expect to pay £7 for a 700ml bottle of quality sherry.

**SERVING**

- Pour fresh — it goes off. Once open it should be kept in the fridge.
- Fino is best served chilled, other sherries at room temperature.
- Serve it in a large flute glass, half-full. Being able to smell it is half the fun.
- Try fino or manzanilla with seafood, cheddar cheese, smoked salmon or sushi. Amontillado is best with chicken, fish, strong cheese, hams, nuts and dried fruits. Oloroso should be accompanied by blue cheese, beef, lamb or venison. Cream sherries go with cake. Pedro Ximenez is delicious with ice-cream.

# Drink



## Jane MacQuitty

**Three first-division grapes that produce pungently scented white wines for all-round drinking**

WINE COURSE PART 5

Sauvignon blanc, gewürztraminer and viognier, the first-division whites, are so odoriferous that even newcomers to wine could smell them in the changing rooms. In particular, sauvignon blanc has a pungency that many people liken to cats and landladies' stairs.

Unsurprisingly, sauvignon drinkers tend to love or loathe this fearsomely scented grape. But I belong to the former camp and find that a classy sauvignon reeking of gooseberries and flowering currant makes a crisp, mouthwatering aperitif, winter or summer, and works well with most seafood dishes.

**Sauvignon blanc.** This variety grows best in and around the Loire. Its zenith there is the weird, volcano-shaped hill of Sancerre, where the Vacheron family's 1996 Sancerre Les Roches (Majestic, £8.99; Stevens Garnier, 47 West Way, Bottley Road, Oxford, £8.95) is so full of thrilling, nettly fruit that I fail to see why French offerings like these continue to attract a bad press. Touraine sauvignon is its closest and cheapest imitator, with an especially good 1996 from the Delaunay family, whose zingy, gooseberry-green fruit is easily worth the £4.49 asked by Majestic Wine (Stevens Garnier, £4.99).



Sauvignon has recently gone respectable. The most hyped version has to be New Zealand's Cloudy Bay sauvignon from Marlborough, the prime, north-tip South Island spot. Cloudy Bay's astonishingly full, yet floral character is underpinned by a dash of tropical fruit, although it does have a dollop of semillon in the mix. The 1997 vintage is a good example of this intermittently fashionable breed.

A less highly priced Marlborough sauvignon is Montana's new Reserve 1996 Vineyard Selection Sauvignon Blanc, with its ripe, green-bean style (Oddbins, Fullers and Thresher Group, £7.49).

Australia's hotter climate has surprisingly produced some top sauvignons, of which my favourite is easily Martin Shaw and Michael Hill-Smith's Shaw & Smith.

The sauvignon blanc grape has made a few star guest appearances in Chile and also in the hot, arid climes of the Cape, with the greengage fruit-rich 1997 Van Loveren Sauvignon Blanc (Asda, £3.79) and others.

**Gewürztraminer.** This grape is distinctively scented but, like all the first-division whites, youth is all. You get most from this grape when its vital, vibrant aroma and fruit is only a year or two old. So forget what the producers say. Older sauvignon that acquires an off-putting asparagus or cabbagey scent with age is not a patch on its younger form.

**Viognier.** Similarly, I prefer the rare, but screamingly successful viognier, originally only from the northern Rhône in the appellations of Châteaux Grillet and Condrieu, when its heavenly, musky, apricot and glacé fruit elegance is unclouded by age.

If you want to see what the fuss is about but don't want to pay out for the privilege, try the 1996 Viognier from Georges Duboeuf, a simple *vin de pays de l'Ardèche*, whose hawthorn-scented fruit is a giveaway at £6 by Berkmann Wine Cellars, 12 Brewery Road, London N7. So far, the New World cannot match France, but an inexpensive viognier that gives you some of this grape's amazing floral quality, though it is too blowsy and fat, is Fetzer's violet-scented and pear-palated 1996 Viognier (Waitrose Direct, Majestic Wine Warehouses and Oddbins, £7.49).

Back to the gewürztraminer: its home ground is Alsace, that long, contentious strip of land west of the Rhine and east of the Vosges mountains. Here, in the best soils and sites, the gewürztraminer grape produces wines that reek of lychees, or roses and violets.

You will have to pay for this particular treat but small family-run concerns such as Zind-Humbrecht and Faller are the names to go for, and Hugel and others have made some fine 1996s.

The problem with gewürztraminer (the word means spicy in German) is that it does not really shine elsewhere. True, I have had the odd great German gewürztraminer, and New Zealand's gewürztraminers from Gisborne in the North Island are impressive.

Many of the New World gewürztraminers are just too flabby and oily to enjoy. However, an exception is the soft, floral, but still spicy 1997 Fairview Gewürztraminer from the Cape, a triumph for the Back family and great value at £3.99 at Asda.

NEXT WEEK: First-division reds.

THE TIMES PRESENTS

*Valentine's Day*

IN ASSOCIATION WITH

*Weekend* Burberrys OF LONDON

**Tell someone you love them in 12 words or more...**

Once again, The Times offers *the* most romantic environment for your Valentine's Day messages. Through our exclusive arrangement with *Burberrys* we will send the one you love a bottle of *Weekend* fragrance for men/women, together with a card which reads: "Look for your message in The Times on Valentine's Day."

In addition, the most original Valentine message published will win a romantic 7-day holiday for two to Florida (to be taken before the 30th June 1998). There will also be two runner-up prizes of a case of champagne.*

| Write your message below (One word per box - minimum 3 lines) | | | | Price | Price with gift |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | - | - |
| | | | | - | - |
| | | | | £22 | £29 |
| | | | | £26 | £35 |
| | | | | £30 | £39 |
| | | | | £34 | £43 |

All prices inc. of VAT

**Your Details**

Name

Address (home/office)

Postcode

Telephone:

**Your Valentine's Details**

Name

Address (home/office)

Postcode

Tick box if you would like to send a gift M☐ F☐

I enclose a cheque/PO for £ _____ made payable to Times Newspapers Ltd.

Or debit my credit card by £ _____ Card expiry date: _____

Card No:

Signature

Please send this coupon with remittance to Valentines Message, The Times PO Box 484, 1 Virgin Street, London, E1 9BL. Fax 0171 782 7766. E-mail: burberry.times@unn.unisys.com CREDIT CARD BOOKINGS 0171 481 4884 All messages with gifts must be received no later than Monday 9th February 1998. We reserve the right to omit an advertisement. *Standard terms and conditions apply

## THE DRINKS THAT TIME FORGOT

THE VAGARIES of corporate takeovers have been responsible for more than a few inexplicable trends in taste.

In 1968, Allied Breweries took over the Oranjeboom (Orange tree) brewery in Rotterdam. The delightful, firm-bodied pilsner beer, made there since 1538, took its name from historical connections with the Dutch royal family.

In 1973, Oranjeboom was given a promotional push in Britain. Trendsetters took to the stuff and the importers found themselves with a surprise seller on their hands. It somehow captured the prevailing Smurfish *Zeitgeist*, with orange the groovy Euro-colour of the moment and all things Dutch enjoying a liberal boom — the orange-clad Dutch football team were all-conquering and *Van der Valk* was topping the television ratings, with its theme tune high in the hit parade.



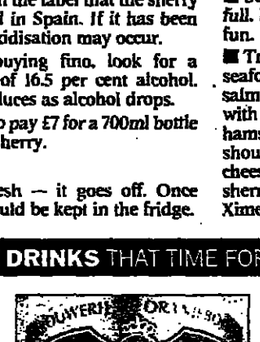

What goes up, of course, can be cruelly abandoned as a new generation takes to the bars, although Oranjeboom's brief vogue did partly presage the taste for "real" ale.

The light pilsner, with 5 per cent alcohol by volume, is now made at Breda, as is a drier version, Klassiek (the addition of the word "classic" to a brand is a sure sign that it is struggling). The new Belgian owners, however, also make a rival ale — Dommelsch Pilsner, so the future does not look bright for our old friend, nor particularly orange.

KATE STRONACH

HENRY HARRIS'S **CHEAT OF THE WEEK**

## A saucy dinner for two



RED WINE sauces have this infuriating habit of looking rich and glossy when you see them in restaurants but being impossible to recreate at home. Any inquiry into how one achieves such a splendid result usually brings forth the response: "I use an intense veal stock."

Few of us have the time to chop huge bones, roast and simmer them and then add a calf's foot to the groaning stock pot. At work I have a big kitchen with a full brigade to help me but at home this is sadly not the case. To get round the problem, but still enjoy the full, rich flavour of a red wine sauce, I use the ultimate in kitchen recycling to create a really rich, deeply flavoured sauce. I begin by making a little chicken stock.

Then I add two pigs' feet, bought from the butcher, to the strained stock and simmer them for an hour and a half. (When removed from the stock you can serve them as a starter with vinaigrette, chopped boiled egg and cornichons, but they are a specialist taste.)

Next, take the stock and bring it to the boil, skim the impurities from the surface and reduce until it is strong and slightly syrupy. The real cheat, or secret, here is the sludge that remains after the wine is decanted from the fermentation tanks. It has the consistency of Turkish coffee and a splash added one minute before you remove the stock from the heat gives it a real intensity. So, when drinking and decanting wines which throw a heavy sediment, save the sludge at the bottom of the bottle for this purpose (the same goes for port). Keep a small bottle in the fridge and top it up whenever you can.

This becomes the base of the sauce. For two people take 150ml of red wine, add a pinch of fresh thyme and two tablespoons of chopped shallots. Bring to the boil, reduce by half, add 100ml of the stock and reduce by half again.

Finally, boil in a knob of butter and a splash of the wine sediment, simmer for a further 30 seconds, check the seasoning and it's ready.

For the perfect meal, grill a couple of entrecôte steaks, open six rock oysters, remove the shells and add them to the sauce. Cook gently for under a minute and spoon over the steaks.

● *The author is chef at Harvey Nichols' Fifth Floor Restaurant in Knightsbridge, London.*

## STAR BUYS

**1993 Uno Fuera Cabernet Sauvignon, Chile, Oddbins, £4.99**

HURRAH! Oddbins has winkled out another two container loads of this stunning Chilean cabernet from Ricardo Peña's Maipo valley vineyard whose grand vin, Domaine Paul Bruno, sells for almost a tenner more than this one but is nowhere near as sublime. So save yourself some money and savour this gorgeous rich cassis and loganberry mouthful.



**1996 Saint-Amour, Domaine des Billards, Nicolas £9.30; E. Gorge (0181-995 3368), £7.49.**

ONE OF the most popular superior cru, or village, beaujolais. Saint-Amour produces seductive wines, particularly in better years, such as 1996, for a price. So get in early with the lovey-dovey stuff and order a bottle of this velvety, plum-packed '96 for Valentine's Day. Nicolas will gift-wrap it free and deliver to any UK address within 48 hours for £5.75.



**BEST OF THE REST:**

● The Co-op has good deals this month, with 70p off the 1997 Penfolds Bin 21 Semillon Chardonnay from Australia (£3.99) and the Berberana Spanish Marino red and white, down 50p to £2.49. And don't miss one of the great cut-price Bulgarian reds of all time, the gutsy plum-spiced Sliven Merlot-Pinot Noir, down 50p to £2.45, and own-label Spanish Cava fizz, down 80p to £3.49.

# The Times Cook



## Frances Bissell

### Discovered: the delights of Middle Eastern dishes, using a cornucopia of herbs, spices, fish and meat

When I returned from Kuwait a few weeks ago, my luggage was fragrant with dates in anise syrup, saffron, a tin of whole bay leaves, nutmeg, cassia, cardamom, cloves, cumin, allspice, and coriander for me to roast and grind and to use with fish and meat. I also had ready-prepared spice mixtures, such as *za'atar* with ground thyme and sumac (the tiny, sour, red seeds of a small shrub) and Kuwaiti fish spice bright with turmeric and piquant with ginger, as well as Lebanese meat spices with cinnamon and cloves.

Little appears in Middle-Eastern cookery books about Kuwaiti cooking. I believe I uncovered a delicious and appealing cuisine — uncomplicated, unpretentious and full of good flavours.

I brought back a treasured book, dedicated by the author to "Mrs Frances". I cannot read Arabic, and the author cannot speak English, but we were able to talk about food through an interpreter, and she came to one of my cookery demonstrations, given as part of "Britain in Kuwait Week", under the auspices of the British Embassy.

The new fish market on the wharf in Kuwait City must join the ranks of Sydney, Tokyo and Seattle as a world-class market. I have rarely seen such a perfect building so suited to its purpose — light, bright, high and airy, spotlessly clean, an attractive mural painted round the walls, and fish stalls made of marble, with integral sinks, drains and counters.

For my cookery demonstration, I took over one of these stalls and cooked a rich, thick soup with fish from the Gulf. *Suboor*, a sweet but extremely bony river shad from the brackish waters of the northern Gulf, provided my stock. A *hamoor* (grouper) was filleted and added at the last minute, together with fillets of *zobaidy*, or silver pomfret.

Huge, sweet Gulf shrimp added colour; it was hard to choose between these and the elegant blue swimming crabs. This was just a small selection of the fish available.

Vegetables and fruit come from all over the Middle East, as I discovered when I was taken shopping in the Souk al Khudra, the wholesale vegetable market. Lemons, persimmons, pomegranates, kiwi, *berbeer* or purslane, and huge bunches of dill, mint, fenugreek and parsley all have a place in the Kuwaiti kitchen. The tomatoes are superb.

Supermarkets and co-ops are as well stocked as their British counterparts, and I was particularly taken with the range of dairy products from the region. I was able to use the *labaneh* (strained yoghurt) and an unusual thick, rich "breakfast cream" in my saffron, cheese and honey tart, which I made for a women's lunch.

The lunch was a special occasion. Janet Boyce, the wife of the British Ambassador, had invited guests to bring traditional Kuwaiti food. This proved an ideal way to learn something about Kuwaiti life and culture, as well as its food. *Murabiyan* (shrimps and rice with a tamarind sauce), *machbous dijaj* (chicken and rice), *mahshi* (stuffed vine leaves), *chebab* (rice and potato balls with a meat stuffing), *jereesh* and *muthroub* (pounded meat and cereals) and *muhamar* (an unusual confection of sweetened rice with fish in a gravy flavoured with dried limes) were some of the dishes I tasted.

One evening, we were entertained to a sumptuous Lebanese feast in a palace, whose tropical garden led down to the beach. Another night, we sat in a beautiful garden, like an extra living room, being served nectar-like fruit drinks, while our hostess, Arun, supervised an exquisite Indian meal, with a memorable dish of pomfret in coriander chutney and steamed in banana leaves.

We met another branch of Arun's extended family when we were visiting friends at their seaside chalet. Not content just to wave to



us as we walked along the beach, Farida and Mohammed beckoned us and chairs were drawn up to the table for us to sample some exquisite food.

Then finally to lunch with yet more members of the same family. The word "hospitality" began to take on new meaning as we joined about 20 of them for their traditional Friday meal, an intriguing buffet of subtly spiced lamb, chicken, fish, duck and quail dishes with rice. This had been preceded by barbecued Gulf shrimp and an array of salads and hot bread.

**Gulf fish stew**
*Serves 4-6*

**For the stock**

1.25-1.75kg fish bones or one bony fish, cleaned and chopped
Prawn shells (see below)
Celery stalk, chopped
Handful of parsley, dill and mint stalks
Slice of ginger

Put the ingredients in a pan, cover with water, simmer for 45-60min, then strain. While the stock is cooking, prepare the base, for which you need:

2-3tbsp olive oil
1tsp grated ginger
1 onion, peeled and chopped
2 or 3 garlic cloves, peeled and crushed
2 leeks, trimmed and sliced
2 celery stalks, trimmed and sliced
4 small turnips, peeled and diced
1kg white fish (two or three kinds), scaled, cleaned and skinned
500g large shrimp or prawns, shelled and the shells put into the prepared stock
1 squid, cleaned and cut into rings (optional)
Herbs: parsley, mint, dill, coriander, spring onions, watercress, purslane
Salt and pepper

Heat the olive oil in a large saucepan and fry the ginger and vegetables until the onions are translucent. Pour on about 600ml stock and cook until the vegetables are tender. Pour in about 1 litre more stock, and bring to the boil. Add the fish, chopped herbs (a good fistful of some or all of those listed) and the seasoning, bring back to simmering point, and cook for five to eight minutes before serving.

ALAN ADLER



For an alternative garnish, rather than use extra herbs, roast a few saffron threads under the grill or in a dry frying pan and scatter them on to the stew just before serving — the hot broth quickly releases the saffron's fragrance. Rice can be served with the stew.

**Roast stuffed leg of lamb**
*Serves 8-8*

400g lean lamb
1 medium onion, peeled and finely chopped
1½tsp each of ground cloves, cardamom, cinnamon, ginger and coriander
200g cooked long-grain rice
3tbsp each of raisins and toasted pinenuts, or flaked almonds, plus extra nuts for garnish
Salt and pepper
2-2.5kg leg of lamb, boned
3 hard-boiled free-range eggs (optional)
Fresh coriander

Dice the lamb. Brown it and the onion in a non-stick frying pan, add about 100-150ml water, and simmer for 15-20min. Stir in the spices, rice, fruit, nuts and seasoning.

Open out the boned leg and put the stuffing down the middle, and then a line of quartered eggs, reserving one for garnish. Tie the joint, place on a rack in a roasting pan loosely covered in foil, and roast in a moderate oven, 170-180C, Gas mark 3½-4, for about two hours. Transfer to a platter, garnish with the egg, almonds and coriander, and serve with extra rice. The meat should be tender and well done, rather than pink and juicy.

**Date "jam"**

500g good quality, semi-dried whole dates, stoned and chopped
Grated zest and juice of a lemon
200ml water
250g sugar
1-2tsp fennel seed or aniseed



2tbsp lightly toasted sesame seeds (optional)
2tbsp walnuts, chopped (optional)
2tbsp lightly toasted, flaked almonds
2tsp rosewater or orange flower water

Put the dates, lemon zest and juice, water, sugar and aniseed in a pan, and cook gently until the sugar has dissolved. Rub through a sieve, add nuts or seeds and stir in the flower water. Spoon into small sterilised jars, seal and label, or keep in an air-tight container in the refrigerator. This is delicious served with ice-cream, yoghurt pancakes, or as a filling for tarts.

**"White" coffee**

THIS simple drink is soothing, and a good digestif. For each person, you need three small coffee cups of water, assuming three servings, and several drops of pure orange flower water. Sugar is added to taste. Boil the water, stir in the orange flower water. Serve.

© Frances Bissell 1998

NEXT WEEK:
*The Times* Cook in Paris.

**THE PERFECT HUMMUS**

### A good spread bet

THIS flavoursome Middle-Eastern dip or spread is a useful standby, because it keeps well in the refrigerator.

■ YOU NEED, for 4-6 people: 400g cooked or canned chick peas, drained; 2 garlic cloves, peeled and crushed; juice of half a lemon; 6tbsp extra virgin olive; 1 generous tbsp sesame paste (*tahina*, available at good delicatessens); salt; freshly ground black pepper; and coriander leaves for garnish.

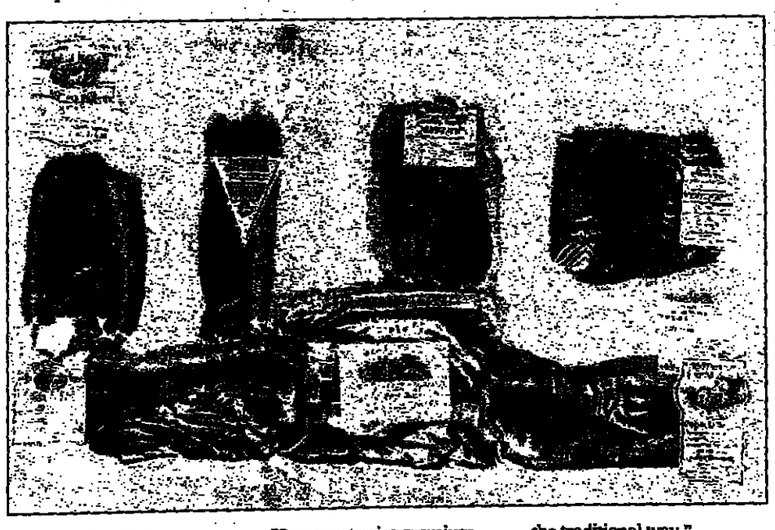
■ METHOD. Put the chick peas into a blender, or food processor, with the rest of the ingredients. Process until smooth. Spoon into a bowl and trickle a little more oil on top. For a softer mixture, add more oil than the recipe indicates. Garnish with the fresh coriander.

■ FOR AN ample starter or light supper, serve with some stuffed vine leaves, thinly sliced smoked cod's roe, olives, grated cucumber and chopped mint mixed with yoghurt, hot pitta bread, sesame bread sticks and raw vegetables.

NEXT WEEK:
*Croque Monsieur*

**CONSUMING INTERESTS:** BACON

National Bacon Week starts tomorrow and ends next Friday. It would be nice to mark the occasion by buying yourself some real bacon for a change, rather than the cheap but nasty phosphate-and-water-soaked rashers supermarkets sell under the name. High-quality, independent butchers selling real bacon still exist, but for this taste test I went to specialist bacon producers who will supply by mail order. Every sample in this trial outscored the best dry-cured back bacon I found in any supermarket chain. **Robin Young**



**Richard Woodall (Cumberland short back bacon, traditional dry cured)**, Lane End, Waberthwaite, near Millom, Cumbria LA19 5YJ (01229 717237). *£1.68 for 250g (not including p&p).*
**Claims:** Traditional dry-cured. Includes sugar in the cure, and the only preservative is saltpetre. Seventh generation of a family firm established 1828.
**Verdict:** Eight thick, short rashers, with a notably deep lean section, lightly marbled, and slender fat which had taken some colour beneath the rind. Sturdy texture, but cooked crisply and well. Saltier than most. ★★★

**Longwood Farm (free-range organic bacon)**, Longwood Farm, Tuddenham St Mary, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk IP28 6TB (01638 717120). *£5.80 for 454g.*
**Claims:** "Breeding, rearing and marketing registered organic meats since 1989."
**Verdict:** Eight fine-cut rashers, which cooked crisply and tasted well. ★★★

**Slack's of Cumbria (home-cured best back)**, Newlands Farm, Raisbeck, Penrith CA10 3SG (01539 624667). *£6.27 for 450g.*
**Claims:** Home-cured from organically reared rare-breed pigs, no added water.
Note: bacon from organically reared pigs usually carries a 50 per cent price premium.
**Verdict:** Rindless, with solid white fat and intramuscular, as well as subcutaneous fat very evident. Cooked less crisply than some, but scored well for flavour. ★★★

**Ramsay Bacon (Ayrshire back)**, Ramsay of Carluke, 22 Mount Stewart Street, Carluke, Lanarkshire ML8 5ED (01555 772277). *£4.84 for 454g.*
**Claims:** Curers of distinction since 1857.
**Verdict:** 12 medium-fine cut, rather small, tightly grained, rindless and partly defatted rashers. Cooked rather dry, and slightly salty, but superior in flavour to the supermarket dry-cured product I used as a control. ★★

**Sandridge Farmhouse Bacon (prime back, unsmoked)**, Bromham, Wiltshire SN15 2JL (01380 850304). *£4.40 for 500g (not including p&p).*
**Claims:** "Cured in Wiltshire the traditional way."
**Verdict:** Six neatly trimmed, thick-cut rashers of brightly pink bacon with white fat and rind. Cooked to a crackly crispness, and tasted delicious. ★★★★★

**Heal Farm (unsmoked back bacon)**, Anne Petch, Kings Nympton, Umberleigh, Devon EX37 9TB (01769 574341/572077). *£3 for 200g.*
**Claims:** Quality, traditional meats. Naturally cured in brine. Preservative E252, E250. Rare-breed bacon, from Berkshire pigs. No weight, ingredients or "best before" date on the pack.
**Verdict:** Six medium rashers, attractively presented in a package of three pairs. Creamy-white fat, with just a little bruising and staining. Cooked crisp and crunchy, with a notably mild, clean flavour. ★★★★

**Eastbrook Farm Organic Meats (dry-cured back bacon)**, Bishopstone, Swindon, Wiltshire SN6 8PW (01793 790460). *£3.72 for 220g.*
**Claims:** "Delicious meat produced in a way that cares for the environment, farm animals and your health." Ingredients include sea salt and muscovado.
**Verdict:** Six sturdy but crudely trimmed rashers stained a rather dark colour from the cure. They cooked rather rubbery. ★★

MORE FOOD & DRINK IN the times magazine

# Slimming food? Fat chance

### Why gangly go-getter Zoe Ball shuns diets and revels in roasts

**HOME** COOKING

KIERAN DOHERTY



Zoe Ball turned up her nose at lasagne until she was kidded into believing she was really eating elephants' ears

Listening to Zoe Ball's machinegun-speed banter during her Radio 1 breakfast show, or observing her frenetic movements while presenting BBC1's *Live and Kicking*, you could easily think that she has had nothing for breakfast except too much coffee. Yet, despite her gangly frame, she has a very healthy appetite. She once claimed to have abandoned her fledgling modelling career because she so hated having to watch what she ate.

While growing up, she was never fussy about food. "There was nothing she didn't like," says her father, Johnny Ball, who presented educational children's shows such as *Think of a Number* on the BBC.

Such was her enthusiasm for eating that her father can't recall her having a favourite food. He credits this to his second wife, Di, who brought Zoe up from the age of six. "Di never makes a bad meal, whatever she turns her hand to," he says. "Pasta, pies, liver or steak — it's always delicious. She makes incredible soups; I have four bowls of soup for lunch sometimes."

"A lot of kids don't like seafood but Zoe never had any problem with it. On one trip to France I remember us all eating in a restaurant where raw fish was served. We asked them to cook it but they explained that this was the only way it came. There were prawns, scallops and mussels so fresh that when you squeezed the lemon on them they curled up. We ate everything. It was wonderful."

The only occasion he can recall having trouble feeding his daughter was when she was very small and resisted an oven-ready lasagne. "I got round that by telling her it was elephants' ears. She didn't have any problem with it after that," he says.

Zoe and her two half-brothers were encouraged to treat eating like an adventure. When asked if she had ever flirted with vegetarianism while growing up, her father's answer was an emphatic no. "From me, she's got this idea of never closing down her horizons. Why should you restrict life and make it into a narrower corridor than it is? Broaden it and you can and experience everything.

"The choice of food is incredible," Mr Ball says. "I used to tell the children that they had more choice in a supermarket — even the smallest country supermarket — than any monarch before the 20th century ever saw. The richest people in the world never had access to such variety."

He wouldn't claim that Zoe was ever an enthusiastic cook. "She did OK at school with domestic science, I remember. She used to bring home cakes and we'd eat them," he says, before adding, "until she turned her back."

Miss Ball's working schedule does not allow her to get home regularly but when she does "she always wants a trad itional roast dinner, be it pork, lamb or beef with all the trimmings, and lemon meringue for pudding," her father says. "And when she comes home we never go out to a restaurant; she wants to eat here," he adds proudly.

JOE WARWICK

SUN



As a schoolgirl (second from left), Zoe Ball was food-fad free

**MICHELIN** COMPETITION



■ THE WINNER of our Michelin competition (Weekend, January 10) was Malcolm Slocombe, of Glastonbury, Somerset. His prize is a dinner for two at a three-star restaurant.

■ Answers: Marco Pierre White at The Oak Room — Contrefillet of Aberdeen Angus; Nico Landenis at Chez Nico — Pithivier of pheasant with celeriac purée; Pierre Koffman at La Tante Claire — Adour Salmon.

■ Twenty runners-up will get a free copy of the *1998 Michelin Guide to Restaurants and Hotels in Great Britain.*

It was all hands to the pumps but **Clare Hogan** was pleasantly surprised to discover that her garden had hidden depths

# From black hole to golden pond



ALAN WELLER



Clare Hogan with the net-covered pond before work began (left), and the kidney-shaped pond in all its glory after a day's cleaning (right). It had been home to frogs and tennis balls

MANY PEOPLE have fairies at the bottom of their garden, but we have a big black pond. Since moving into our new house I have often wondered what lay hidden in its depths. You couldn't tell because it was covered by heavy wire netting and the surface was dark with decomposing leaves. Therapy, the cat, enjoyed sitting beside it, and foxes have a thoroughfare behind it, but no birds bathed in it and nothing ever seemed to move in it.

The garden centre had not come across water features that had been neglected for ten years, our council doesn't clean ponds and the septic tank cleaners said leaves would block their hose.

Then, after months of looking through the small ads in gardening magazines, I found a pond expert. He had some good ideas about what we could do once the pond was emptied but his quote was nearly £1,000.

Not keen to empty a 16½ft by 11ft pond by myself, I tried a version of the old-boy network. We had recently had oaks dead-wooded by T&S Tree Surgeons — had they come across pond people? They knew only of the pond expert, but they did have a pump and two chaps free on Monday.

Now is a good time to clean out neglected ponds because everything is dormant. But be careful of hibernating frogs and toads. We found about 30 and released them into the garden. I was worried that they might die, but the council wildlife expert said that as long as they had somewhere moist, they would survive.

Once Adam Jones and Chris Burton had pulled off the netting, the smelly, hard work began. Adam got into his waders and began to fork out the rotting leaves. Chris started from what we now know to be the shallow end. They heaped the watery gunge along the fence — "excellent nutrients," Adam said. They put the frogs into a big yellow bucket for later release, fished out four tennis balls and eight-and-a-half golf balls and lowered the level of the water by pumping it into the garden. Soil and rocks from the rockery above the pond had also found their way into the murky depths.

By about 4pm, Adam and Chris were finally able to jet-spray the pond. It now became clear that it was made of concrete, kidney-shaped and about 3ft deep. They complained of backache, but since I had spent my time making numerous cups of tea and watching them, it was like a great big adventure to me. The pond is so big I'm almost tempted to turn it into a spa. But then, where would the frogs hibernate, the birds dip and water lilies grow?



One of the pond's 30 frogs

**POND CLEANING**

- Investigate the edge with a trowel to see whether the pond is concrete, fibreglass, butyl or polythene lined. *Stephen Anderton writes.*
- Bale out as much water as you can with a bucket. Save any water plants.
- Concrete ponds can be emptied of silt with a bucket and shovel. Digging a sump in one end of the silt will help to drain the remainder, making it easier to handle.
- Flexible liners have a limited life (up to 20 years) and are easily damaged by boots and spades. Scoop out a sump with a plastic bucket to drain the silt, place a board on the rest, and work off that.
- *Put the silt in a heap* nearby, where wildlife can crawl back to the pond. The heap will drain slowly, leaving a fine, rich soil useful for topping up beds.
- Hose down the liner, bale out again, and refill the pond with a hose. Replace plants in baskets.


BLOOMS of Bressingham

**Delightful Delphiniums**

*3 plants for only £5.95*



It is no wonder that Delphinium are called the 'Queen of the Border', with their beautifully coloured spikes, impressively standing tall above your beds. Delphiniums also make excellent cut flowers and will flourish in a soil that does not dry out completely.

Our Delphinium Collection comprises of three plants, one each of the following varieties:

*Astolat* - has pretty pink/lilac coloured flowers.

*Black Knight* - has very dark blue flowers with stunning jet black centres.

*Galahad* - has beautiful pure white flowers.

All will reach approximately 1.2-1.5m in height and will flower from June through to September. Our Delphinium Collection of three plants is available for only £5.95, including delivery.

Despatch will be throughout March and April and all plants will arrive in 9cm pots. All orders will be acknowledged. Offer subject to availability. N.B. Harmful if eaten.

GUARANTEE

- We underline our commitment to service, quality and variety by offering twelve months guarantee on all our plants.
- Price includes delivery.
- You can return within 14 days for a full refund or replacement if not completely satisfied.

01245 326004

24 hour credit card order service

Delphiniums Offer, Blooms of Bressingham, Mail Order, Admail 965 (Bressingham), Diss, Norfolk IP22 2BR. We deliver to all addresses in the UK, including Northern Ireland. Offer subject to availability.

BLOOMS of Bressingham TIDEL2

Please send me: ____ Collection(s) of 3 Delphiniums @ £5.95 each. inc. del.

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____ Postcode: _____

I enclose crossed cheque/postal order (address on back) for £_____ made payable to Blooms of Bressingham or debit my Mastercard/Visa card by £_____

Card No: _____ Expiry Date: _____

Orders to: DELPHINIUMS OFFER, BLOOMS OF BRESSINGHAM, Mail Order, Admail 965 (Bressingham), Diss, Norfolk, IP22 2BR.

Blooms of Bressingham Mail Order is a division of DPA Direct Ltd. If you do not wish to receive future offers from companies approved by DPA Direct Ltd please tick here ☐

Reg. Address: DPA Direct Ltd, 25 Rothschild Road, South Wootton Runs, Chelmsford, Essex CM3 5ZA. Reg. No. 2744139 TIDEL2



TO ADVERTISE CALL: 0171 481 1920 FAX: 0171 481 9313

HOMES & GARDENS

TO ADVERTISE CALL: 0171 481 1920 FAX: 0171 481 9313

GAIN SAFE ACCESS TO EXTRA SPACE

LOFT LADDERS

Fully fitted by our craftsmen

from ONLY £129 +VAT =£151.35

PACKAGE DEAL!
- 3 Section Ladder + Light
- 20 yards Floorboarding

ONLY £428 +VAT = £502.90 SAVE £58.75

ALSO LADDERS & ALL ACCESS EQUIPT DELIVERED AT UNBEATABLE PRICES

BPS LADDERS LTD

CALL FREE ON 0800 592551

THE ENDLESS POOL



- Counter current swimming gives unlimited swimming in a pool only 15'x8'.
- Current speed adjustable to individual requirements.
- Complete kit for £12,500 + VAT for all your indoor swimming permits total cost less than any comparable conventional pool.
- Operation and heating costs under £5.00 per week.

Full Information From

ENDLESS POOLS™ SWIMMING MACHINES TEL: 01420 561288 FAX: 01420 561277

HEDGING & YOUNG TREES

Over 180 varieties, plus fruit, ground cover and climbers. Catalogue round free 01280 822595 Tel: 01280 813556 Fax: 01280 815491 Buckingham Nurseries 72 Tingewick Road, Buckingham MK18 4AE

FREEDOM & INDEPENDENCE

Enjoy life to the full with our complete range of vehicles designed to take your wherever you want to go.



☎ - 01753 647 435 or write to: AUTOMOBILITY DIRECT PO Box 265, SLOUGH SL2 3RX

Quality Bulb Established Supplier

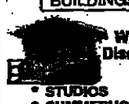
SNOWDROPS IN THE GREEN

| | |
|---|---|
| Single Snowdrops and Double Snowdrops | £3.50 per 50, £6.50 per 100 |
| Winter Daffodils | £4.50 per 50, £8.50 per 100 |
| Snowflakes | £5.00 per 20, £5.00 per 10 |

All bulbs freshly lifted for each order. *Please add £1 towards p&p.*

*Cheques & postal orders to:* A. Brown, A.B. Nurseries, Dept TT, 27 Westmead Avenue, Wisbech, Cambs. PE13 2SL. Tel: 01945 465310

WARWICK BUILDINGS



Winter Discounts

- STUDIOS
- SUMMERHOUSES
- WORKROOMS
- GARAGES
- STABLING

(Please specify which brochure)

SHOW SITE - SOUTHAM ROAD, LONG ITCHINGTON, NR RUGBY WARWICKSHIRE CV23 8QL

TEL: 01926 815757 FAX: 01926 815162

DRINK PURE CLEAN WATER



use AQUA-SURE a home water treatment system that's much better for your health!

It keeps water top water clean, free from accumulated chemicals & Green water that tastes and smells fresh at less than 1p per litre & Saves on the cost and inconvenience of buying bottled water & Is healthier, cleaner and more efficient than a jug filter & Simple to install and attractive in your kitchen.

Freephone 0500 521104

for information on how to have healthy water for your family to drink

SOMERSET POSTAL FLOWERS

*VALENTINE'S DAY SOLVED!*

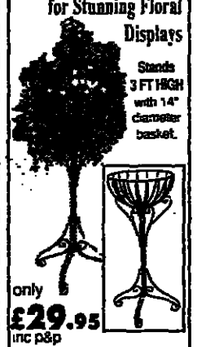
VALENTINE'S RED ROSES £35

Our top quality fresh cut flower bouquets delivered nationwide for VALENTINE'S DAY, then MOTHER'S DAY and all occasions. Wonderful Somerset Springsummer flowers £15, £25, £40

A Chelsea Flower show Award Winner for many years.

Tel: 01984 618314 (24hrs) Fax: 01984 618611

'WROUGHT IRON' JARDINIERE for Stunning Floral Displays



Stands 3 FT HIGH with 14" diameter basket.

only £29.95 inc p&p

Add a blaze of colour to your patio, pathways and garden. The sturdy wrought iron work is specially coated with an extremely tough black thermoplastic coating which not only enhances the appearance but ensures a hard-wearing, maintenance-free long life. Ideal for placing indoors or in a conservatory to add colourful displays all year round.

This victorian planter is not generally found in the shops and is available to you at a very special price.

7 Day despatch

24HR ORDER LINE 01483 268888

Quote DIY:15

Send to: J.E.M. Marketing (Dept DIY:15) J.E.M. House, Little Mead, Cranleigh, Surrey GU6 8ND

SIMULATED SECURITY TV CAMERA



ONLY £37.95 + £2.05 p&p

CONTINUOUS FLASHING RED L.E.D. LAMP

This solid, robust, 0.7Kg metal unit will give the impression that your home or premises are under constant video surveillance. To give a totally realistic appearance it is fitted with a continuously flashing high intensity red LED lamp, powered by one AA battery (included) which lasts approx. 1 years. Without question this is the most realistic simulated unit on the market. It comes complete with fixing screws and plugs, transfers and a *window sticker highlighting* the fact that your premises are protected by security cameras.

*Keep thieves at bay – order today!*

Money Back Guarantee.

Allow 7 - 14 days despatch.

24 hr Credit Card Hotline 01483 268888

Quote No. DIY/9

J.E.M. Marketing, Dept. DIY/9, Little Mead, Cranleigh, Surrey, GU6 8ND

BEAT THE DROUGHT

Specialists in top water catchment & rainfall conservation.

Above or below ground storage facilities.

Specifically designed for domestic or commercial use.

Save 1000's of gallons per annum. Cut water bills.

RAINFALL CONSERVATION SYSTEMS 0113 248 6458 (24hrs) or 0113 248 8026

GARAGES - SPECIAL PRICES

PLUS BETTER CHOICE & QUALITY BETTER GUARANTEE BETTER SERVICE MAINTENANCE-FREE AND FREE DELIVERY



☎ 01295 770873

or write to: Compton Buildings Ltd. (Dept. G908) FREEPOST (LON) Fenny Compton, LEAMINGTON SPA, CV33 0BR

Compton

RANGE TYPE COOKERS

BRITANNIA (Available Now) LACANCHE - GODIN - SMEG - ROSIERES - FALCON - VIKING

*Discounts Available*

National Delivery & Service

Tel - 01226 768027 - Fax

COUNTRY DREAM

RISING DAMP? CONDENSATION?

*Talk to the specialists*

Wallguard understand damp. Our specialist surveyors will tell you where the problem lies.

TWO WAYS TO TACKLE DAMP

1 If rising damp is your problem the patented Wallguard Ceramic Tube System will tackle it. The neat, *unobtrusive ceramic tubes* are usually fitted outside so internal walls and decorations are not disturbed. The system has been in use in Westminster Abbey since 1952!



2 Condensation in individual rooms is dealt with by the patented Wallguard Trickle Ventilator. It takes the damp vapours through the wall to discharge harmlessly into the outside air – without causing draughts or heat loss.



NO MAINTENANCE, NO RUNNING COSTS & ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY

Local Authority & Building Society Approved

WALLGUARD

YOU'RE HOME AND DRY

For further details or to arrange for a survey

PHONE FREE ON 0800 508608

or use the coupon, there's no postage to pay.

Send to Wallguard Limited, Freepost MR 8787 Manchester M16 8BR. E-Mail sales@wallguard.co.uk http://www.wallguard.co.uk Available in Ireland & The Channel Islands

☐ I need a damp proof course survey ☐ I have a damp problem ☐ I have a condensation problem TT6

Name _____

Telephone _____

Address _____

_____ Postcode _____

Send to: WALLGUARD LTD, FREEPOST MR 8787, MANCHESTER M16 8BR.

SCATTER Clears Cats from your garden

NIGHT AND DAY, EVERY DAY

Unique programme of computer-controlled ultrasound expels cats from lawns, flower beds, shrubberies, walls and patios

Not Affected by Weather



Scatter transmits random bursts of ultrasound at a frequency that cats avoid. They'll turn away long before they expose themselves to its full impact, so that it works where fences or netting fail. Fully automatic - no sensors to go wrong. Highly reliable fully weatherproofed miniature computer circuit.

"Scatter is the only one that works" Classic FM Gardeners Forum, 12th April 1997

SWITCH between low-voltage mains or battery operation at will. NO affect on birds or other pets. INAUDIBLE to humans. Scatter is completely safe. Installed in minutes. Try it for 90 days - 5 year guarantee

FREEPHONE 0800 282824 FOR FREE BROCHURE LINES OPEN 24 HOURS 7 DAYS

CLEARFLOW LTD, 47-48 High St, Hungerford, Berks RG17 0NE Tel: 01488 687606 Fax: 01488 685411 TRADE and OVERSEAS enquiries welcomed

*Traditional style, value and great ideas ...*

HEAVY DUTY LOPPERS

*for a bargain £19.95*

plus FREE Pruners and Gloves

- Twist and lock telescopic arms
- Slices through branches up to 2 inches thick effortlessly
- Cushioned rubber grips



FREE PRUNERS & GLOVES

Pruning thick overhead branches can be tricky. What you really need is a pair of heavy duty anvil lopping shears with telescopic handles.

The one we have on offer, made by Eckman, has twist-and-lock extension arms, so that you can increase your reach by up to (94cm) 37 inches.

And to make cutting easier, the tough blades are DuPont Teflon-coated to reduce friction. With the anvil action they will slice through branches up to 2 inches thick almost effortlessly.

The cushioned rubber grips make using the loppers comfortable and easy even in the coldest of weather.

The lopping shears, in a handsome bottle green finish, can be yours for the bargain price of £19.95, including postage and packing. And if these shears alone were not excellent value, we are also giving you FREE OF CHARGE a superb pair of ratchet pruners AND a pair of quality leather-palmed gardening gloves (each usually sold at £6.95) with every order.

This is an offer not to be missed!

*Order by Post*

Fill in the coupon quoting your Mastercard/Visa account number or send together with cheque (address on back please) or crossed Postal Order NOT CASH to :-

Coopers of Stortford (Ref 9041), Admail 100, Bishop's Stortford, CM23 2FD.

*Or Telephone*

Call 01279 438150 for MasterCard/Visa Credit Card orders, 24 hour, 7 day service. For enquiries telephone Monday to Friday between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Please quote reference 9041 when ordering.

Allow up to 28 days for delivery from receipt of order.

We deliver to address in the UK ( including Northern Ireland).

If you are not satisfied please return within 28 days for a refund.

Coopers OF STORTFORD

HEAVY DUTY LOPPERS ORDER FORM

| Please send me | Qty | Price | Total |
|---|---|---|---|
| Heavy Duty Loppers | | £19.95 | |

(Please indicate quantity and total)

Mr/Mrs/Miss (Initials) _____

please use block capitals

Address _____

_____

_____

_____ Postcode _____

Daytime Telephone No. _____

I enclose a crossed cheque/Postal Order made payable to Coopers of Stortford for £_____ or please debit my MasterCard/Visa (Delete as appropriate)

with the sum of £_____

Card No _____

Signature _____

Expires _____

If you would prefer not to receive information, offers or services from other companies carefully selected by Coopers of Stortford, please tick box ☐ Ref: 9041

Coopers of Stortford is a trading name of The Enterprise Department Ltd. Head Office: 22 Causeway, Bishop's Stortford, CM23 2EJ. Reg No 2917867

ANDREW LAWSON



Penelope Hobhouse busy with the secateurs in the borders of her Dorset home. Despite her international reputation as a designer of traditional English gardens, she has the instincts of an innovator

# Evergreens and a glint of steel

A-Z BOTANICAL COLLECTION



Topiary along a path at Tintinhull



A formal pond at Tintinhull, Somerset, the garden Mrs Hobhouse made famous. It attracts 20,000 visitors a year



In Dorset, ceanothus is in bloom

**ME AND MY GARDEN**
PENELOPE HOBHOUSE

Penelope Hobhouse is courted by the rich and glamorous, who whirl her around the world in their private jets to design the English gardens for which she is famous. However, she would prefer the freedom to adopt a more innovative style.

She is 68. Scholarly books are produced in between designing her own new garden in Dorset, making gardens for private clients and for the Royal Horticultural Society at Wisley, and — at the moment — learning how to design on a computer screen, a daunting task that designers half her age avoid.

But Mrs Hobhouse reckons that learning new skills or doing research for a book stops the brain from festering. Health has also been much on her mind: in the past year her back caused so much pain that for five months she could not walk. This was followed by months of shingles, from which she is only just recovering.

"It has made me turn over a new leaf. I am no longer going to start work at 5am and work for 12 hours. I shall get up at 7.30, read a book and work for six hours. This illness has made me realise that I might lose friends because I am so busy."

I am prepared to take bets on Mrs Hobhouse never slowing down. Her design work, let alone her temperament, will not allow it.

Her reputation is founded on her work at Tintinhull in Somerset, created in the 1930s by Phyllis Reiss and subsequently nurtured and run by Mrs Hobhouse. She still refuses to take credit for Tintinhull, despite boosting visitor numbers from 4,000 to 20,000 a year — a huge increase for a relatively small garden.

But for her divorce and second marriage — to a fellow member of the Garden History Society, Professor John Malins — she would not have taken over Tintinhull.

"We needed somewhere to live and decided that John could afford to pay the rent at Tintinhull," she says. "Eventually the National Trust decided they could trust us with the garden and stopped making us choose from their plant lists."

Mrs Hobhouse transformed the garden. When she was not working in it, she was writing about it or researching plant history. But her gardening experience began, tentatively, in married life first in Scotland and then in Somerset, where she tended nine acres with little help. With Marjory Fish as a friend and neighbour, she had expert guidance.

Today, it is easy to pigeonhole her in the tradition of Jekyll and Robinson: the carefully charted colour schemes, the remarkable knowledge of plant history and cultivation, and the recreation of a star garden which has launched a thousand magazine covers.

But her steel, glass, stone and brick house in Dorset gives a clue to a far more adventurous style. "The problem is that if I wanted to do something unusual, most of my clients would not accept it. They see me as a traditionalist and want from me a very English garden."

This urge to innovate has been expressed in the one-acre garden she is creating around her house. It is a mixture of classical and new. A steel bench dazzles in the north-facing front garden where six yews, clipped into cone shapes, make a vista to a steel-edged rectangular pool, with views of the lolloping hills and valleys beyond.

"I am not consciously trying to use new material in my garden; I am trying to link everything up and make sense of it. I was inspired by the steel chimney coming out of my stove and wanted to repeat that material in the garden, as you would repeat a plant."

The steel is surrounded by traditional features: hornbeam hedges, shady bowers for hot summer days, black and white mulberries, crab apples. *Rosa rugosa* and four raised, railway-sleeper beds filled with imported topsoil and manure, where almost all the Hobhouse vegetables are grown.

It is in the walled garden at the back of the house where the most innovative planting has been made, on two terraces running from right down to left as you look from the house. In the garden itself, arches, small trees and walks give several viewing points, not all of them dependent on the house.

It is mid-January, albeit an unusually warm one, and *Ceanothus arboreus* 'Trewithen Blue' is already in bloom. The greens and greys, and the different leaf-shapes and textures, give this area an almost jungle appearance. The climate helps — it is not far to the subtropical gardens of Abbotsbury on the coast — and the thick stone and brick walls, four metres high, that surround the south-facing garden make it warm and sheltered.

Getting started was not easy on ground that had not been cultivated for some time. "It is terrible clay," Mrs Hobhouse says. "Sand is useless for breaking it up so I used large gravel, lots of mushroom compost and gypsum, and had the walled garden dug four times. At one point, I couldn't even get the spade in. It was a huge amount of work."

She has stationed her office where she cannot see the garden, and so cannot be tempted out while she is writing.

There are robinia walks, a bay tree, a strawberry tree, white mulberry, a Judas tree, olearia, phillyrea, the semi-evergreen hawthorn *Crataegus X lavallei carrierei*, an olive tree and plenty of the old favourites: yew, lavender, rosemary, all kinds of sages, thistles, various euphorbias and mulleins, box, red-hot pokers and rose arches.

"Broadleaf evergreen shrubs are my passion in life, so I am mad about things like olearia and phillyrea. I used to go to Abbotsbury a lot and I was influenced by that. I am slightly irritated by perennials that have to be cut down every year, and I like the architecture of evergreens."

Passion comes into much of Mrs Hobhouse's conversation about gardens. "Now, at the age of 68, it is landscape that moves me the most. Seeing beautiful landscapes are the most emotional moments for me.

"People get over-obsessed about gardens, especially Americans who take gardening very, very seriously and are new to it. They are always banging on about how well that plant goes with this one. Gardening is not about individual plant associations, it is an overall look.

"Going into someone's garden can sometimes make you shake, it is so exciting. So long as that can still happen, you are all right."

JANE OWEN



*Stipa gigantea* is used to fine effect; a tub and arch create additional points of interest in Mrs Hobhouse's garden



Ammonites provide unusual decoration for a wall-top

> 'If I want to do anything unusual, most of my clients will not accept it'



**STEPHEN ANDERTON'S**
GARDEN ANSWERS

**Q** **When should I transplant hardy cyclamen? My father-in-law has died, and we would like to lift some small clumps from his garden before we sell the house. Two years ago, I bought six plants in flower and planted them, but did not reappear.** — M. Wynn-Jones, Ware, Herts.

**A** The best time to replant out cyclamen is late summer or early autumn. However, you can lift a clump of seedlings at almost any time, taking care not to let the soil fall off the roots, and they will transplant successfully. Take care: if the clumps are going to bounce along in a car before they are replanted, bind each one in clingfilm. So long as the soil is moist, there is no need to water them in. The greatest predator of cyclamen is the forgetful summer hoe, followed by mice. Other possibilities include scratching cats or squirrels, slugs taking the buds, and vine-weevils eating the tubers.



**Q** **I have a heavy-cropping Bramley apple tree, well-pruned and healthy. But the bulk of the apples have little brown spots in the flesh, just below the surface. They are edible but unsightly when peeled. The soil is light and the average rainfall low.** — P.P. Beales, Clacton, Essex.

**A** Your problem is bitter pit. Sometimes the brown spots show on the surface of the fruit, too. The cause is lack of calcium in the tree, although not necessarily in the ground. In times of relative drought, and when a tree is producing a large crop of big apples, it simply cannot get enough calcium to develop its fruit properly. The answer is to give your tree more moisture. First, spray out grass below it with glyphosate in the first mild spell, to reduce competition for summer moisture. Then mulch it generously over the area of its roots to conserve moisture.



**Q** **Is there a right procedure and time of year for cutting back a Leyland cypress hedge, which will ensure survival? When I cut back such a hedge before, it did not recover its luxuriance. The present hedge needs to come down from 14ft to 6ft, and to be faced up.** — V. Johnson, Preston, Lancs.

**A** There is no happy way of topping out Leyland cypresses so hard, and cutting them hard back at the sides does not produce good results either. For a better-looking Leyland hedge you would need to start again, replanting now and stopping out the new plants in good time, at 4ft (probably later this summer) to make them bush out. But why not plant something more suitable for a small hedge? If yew goes into well-prepared, well-fed soil in good light, it can put on 12-16in a year at first.

**Q** **Can you tell me where to buy some mature mop-headed holly trees of the green and silver variety?** — Lady Aykroyd, Harrogate, N. Yorks.



**A** The chances are that if you buy mop-head hollies anywhere in Britain, they will have been imported at a considerable size. When buying mature clipped specimens, it is normal to see and select your trees before purchase. Try a good large garden centre first; they are usually happy to order for you, if you state exactly what size and quality you need. But do not accept less-than-satisfactory specimens when they arrive. Otherwise ring around some of the large suppliers of mature or clipped trees — they will be used to delivering over considerable distances. Try Tendercare in Uxbridge, or Pantiles at Chertsey. Go and choose them. At £250 or more for a mop-head in a 45-litre pot, it is worth getting it right.

● *Write to: Garden Answers, Weekend, The Times, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN. Advice is offered without legal responsibility. The Times regrets that any enclosures cannot be returned.*

**Stephen Anderton** looks at how electronic tagging and insurance protect plants against theft

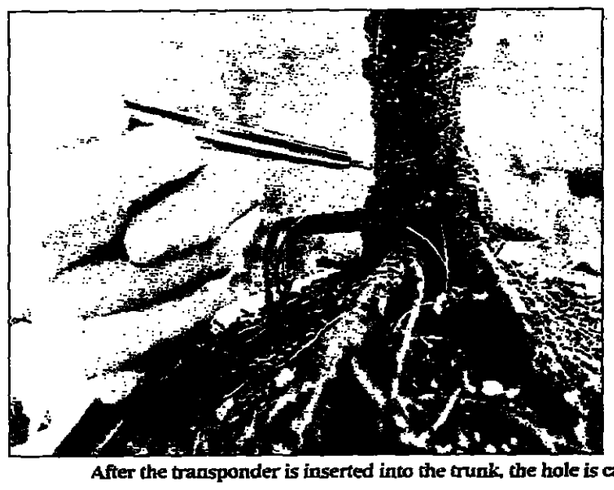
JASON ROBERTS



Martin Unwin using a scanner to identify the code on a transponder inserted into a bonsai as a guard against theft. Transponders can also be used with garden furniture and statuary

# Constable, follow that plant

PA/DAVE KENDAL





After the transponder is inserted into the trunk, the hole is capped with a piece of bark. The tiny transponder costs £11.99

To the opportunist thief, bonsai must seem like an easy option. They live outdoors on slatted wooden screens or in cold greenhouses, neither of which afford any protection from theft. Bonsai have even been known to walk out of the Chelsea Flower Show on more than one occasion.

Only the finest bonsai in the best-known collections are worth thousands. Most bonsai, grown by Britain's 10,000 enthusiasts, are perhaps worth between £50 and £70 and that includes the pot. They were probably grown from seed, but it is the thought that counts; and the time, and the loving care.

It is now possible to give bonsai some kind of protection with a new type of electronic tag. The Bon-Tag, at £11.99, was the idea of bonsai and motorcycle enthusiast Martin Unwin. He had been interested in bonsai for ten years, when his interests crossed over.

He was familiar with the Datatag system of identification approved by the police, whereby high-powered and easily stolen motorcycles are fitted with a tiny electronic transponder. The transponder emits a unique code signal, and if a suspect bike is found by the police, a scanner can be used to identify the vehicle's code, which is then matched by computer to the owner. Stolen bikes give the police such a great deal of work that they are keen to see the system used.

Mr Unwin realised that what the transponder could do for bikes, domestic pets and even fishing rods, it could also do for bonsai, so he patented the use. Meetings followed with Mitsui, the manufacturer of the transponders, and before long Mr Unwin was sole distributor of the Bon-Tag. For once, Britain is electronically ahead of the Japanese, even if it is with one of their ancient arts.

It was more the feeling of rage than the money involved that led Mr Unwin to try to put a stop to bonsai theft. He points out that when a bonsai is stolen it is not like losing a hi-fi system. It is something personal, developed over many years, which cannot be replaced.

I like to think of a bonsai as an unfinished picture, framed by a pot, and whose canvas never dries. Its value lies in the time and effort you put into it, and the design and materials used to develop it into a living work of art that can change constantly with the seasons," he says. No doubt what enrages bonsai artists most is that so many of the miniature trees die in careless hands before they are ever sold.

The Bon-Tag transponder is tiny. A one-eighth drill bit is used to make a tiny hole in the tree trunk, and the transponder is inserted with a small syringe before capping the hole again with a piece of bark. Before long the scar is invisible. Would you saw it open to get one out? I think not.

If the tree is stolen and then recovered by police, it can be identified not just by the creator's intimate but unprovable knowledge of its every crevice, but by its electronic tag. Tagging is not going to stop every bonsai theft. But if the plants bear a warning notice, as Mr Unwin suggests, saying they are tagged, then thieves in search of a quick sale will think twice. The same would apply to garden furniture or sculpture.

The really serious bonsai growers keep a close photographic record of their trees, partly for their own satisfaction, but partly to have an accurate picture of the trees in case of theft. Like all works of art, whether on canvas or marble in the garden, a photographic record is an essential tool for security purposes, and it also keeps insurers happier.

● *Bon-Tag, 3 Asterfield Avenue, Bebington, Wirral, Merseyside Lb3 5JY.*
● *There is an excellent Royal Horticultural Society video on the creation and maintenance of bonsai. For further details or credit-card purchase telephone 01483 211320. Price £12.99 plus £2 p&p.*
● *The Bonsai International Convention and Exhibition is being held at the Plymouth Pavilions this year from May 29 to June 1, which includes lectures and demonstrations from Japanese and American artists. Further details: Lesley Collins, 01752 881237.*

## WATCH OUT, THERE'S A THIEF ABOUT

THEFT from gardens is becoming a major concern to insurers. Last March, Netham Bowling Club had a good lawn's worth of newly laid top-quality turf stolen from its greens. It all makes the price of your average domestic bonsai look rather insignificant.

At the minor end of the market, an astonishing £12,000 worth of gnomes are abducted every year. At the more expensive end of the spectrum, ride-on mowers and larger pieces of horticultural machinery costing many thousands are becoming attractive to thieves.

The machinery supplier Risboro Turf, of Aylesbury, is now fitting Datatag motorcycle transponders as standard to its outdoor machinery.

Norwich Union reckons that the average garden shed break-in costs £500, and has been offering reduced rates on state-of-the-art domestic burglar alarm systems to reduce the problem.

Some companies, such as the Retirement Insurance Advisory Service, are beginning to offer optional theft cover for such items as fences, gates, lawns and even trees and shrubs. The sum assured is strictly limited and not large. Most companies, however, offer no protection for plants in the garden.

Plantsmans Plus Insurance, underwritten by Norwich Union, is run by JSJ Insurance Services in Stockport. Staffed by "enthusiastic amateur gardeners", the company sets out to offer among other things cover for plants and ornaments in the garden, and for tender greenhouse plants on an unspecified basis up to £2,000. Single article limit is £100 but cover for larger items is available on a specified basis. The company will even offer a 5 per cent discount on premiums to people using the Bon-Tag system.




THE ultimate burglar deterrent is perhaps to have your house occupied by professional sitters while you are away. Homesitters Limited has more than 550 employees nationwide, vetted and "fidelity bonded". (Maybe they have been fitted with a subcutaneous Datatag?)

Keen gardeners will be "matched with a kindred spirit" to "nurture seedlings, ventilate the greenhouse, water hanging baskets and dead-head the roses." I never knew gardening was so easy. And all for just £19 a day.

● *Plantsmans Plus Insurance is available from JSJ Insurance Services Ltd, 20 Marple Road, Offerton, Stockport SK2 5QB (0161-483 8800).*
● *The Garden Secure policy is available from the Retirement Insurance Advisory Service, on Freefone 0800 552100.*
● *Sainsbury's Homebase offers a Home and Contents policy covering gardens on Freefone 0800 397397.*
● *Homesitters Ltd is at Buckland Wharf, Buckland, Aylesbury HP22 5LQ (01296 630730).*

# Twist again like we did last summer

**Plants which refuse to grow straight have a distinctive and eccentric charm**

It is curious how the foliage of some plants has an attractive natural twist. Bizarre rather than attractive might be a better description for the insane spiralling stems of the corkscrew willow *Salix babylonica pekinensis* 'Tortuosa' or the hazel known as Harry Lauder's walking stick, *Corylus avellana* 'Contorta', or even the leaves of the spiral 'Habitat' rush *Juncus effusus* 'Spiralis'.

These plants have a genetic malfunction which stops them growing straight. Instead, like a toy car with a wheel missing, they are condemned to run in circles forever.

More attractive than these freaks are plants which turn and twist their foliage along its length, allowing the light to catch the varying angle of the planes and develop a sense of movement.

One such plant new to me last year was the little perennial *Allium senescens* ssp. *montanum*. It grows in low clumps wider than they are tall and the grey-green leaves are strap-shaped, rising to 6in from a flattened bulb which sits on the surface of the soil.

I first saw this plant growing in northern Spain, on natural screes alongside helianthemums, stonecrops and thin grasses. Small mats of it were even growing at waist height on rough boulders in pockets of thin soil.

Even there, in its green-leaved form, it was instantly attractive and distinctive. The twist of the foliage pulls the eye at once and says "here's something different". There is a hollow swirl to the foliage of the clump as a whole, as if someone had just pulled a whisk out of a bowl of egg-whites.

The flowers on my garden form came in late summer — golf-ball sized domes of rosy mauve on stems nicely overtopping the leaves. When the flowers were over, the stems stayed firm while the geometry of the heads became black. It would make a fine alternative to dwarf pinks or thrift or London Pride as an edging to a small border.

*Iris kerneriana* deserves to be far more widely grown. It is one of the best of the so-called spuria irises, along with species like plum-scented *Iris graminea* and the golden *Iris orientalis* which flowers at 4-5ft. *Iris kerneriana* grows to only about 20in and the leaves to about 16in. The flowers arrive generously in May and are individually a rather gaunt explosion of clear yellow. They do not have the swooping, curving, cat's-tongue fall of the bearded border irises.



*Corylus avellana* 'Contorta'

The twist of the foliage pulls the eye at once

But once again it is the leaves which attract, before ever a bud is seen. Each leaf is narrow — perhaps only a quarter of an inch across — and they come in dense, tight clumps. They rise in parallel spears, firm to the tip with none of the circular motion seen in the allium, or the drooping tip of many an iris. And as they rise they twist by degrees until the whole clump stands bristling with promise.

In the north I grew it in full baking sun under a wall, where it flowered prolifically year in, year out. In the south it seems to succeed even in part shade and can be seen in dappled moist woodland at the Savill Garden, Windsor.

Like many an iris, once its flowers are over it has little to recommend it, and the fascination of its foliage is muddled by the seed heads. But in the early stages it is charm itself.

A plant I would never be without is *Helianthus salicifolius*, the willow-leaved sunflower. It is a perennial species whose flowering comes as late as October and November, on stems 8ft and 9ft high. In spring it is late to appear. Wispy leaves spiral around thin stems like underfed lilies. There is no hint of the power to come.

Then in midsummer, the stems reach 4-5ft and get into their stride. Stems thicken at the base, and the long narrow leaves whip back from the growing tips like sparks from the nose of a rocket.

In about September, there is a last desperate spurt of growth, from 6ft to 9ft. The leaves lose their density about the stem, which becomes thinner, finally subdividing into a less-than-glorious display of dizzy yellow daisies. Sometimes it even keels over.

In the north of England, the plant can even miss out altogether on its flowers, and simply grinds to a chilly halt after the midsummer thrust.

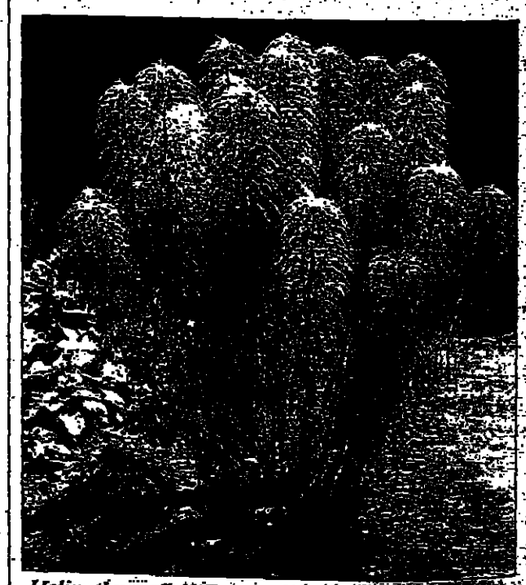
I think I have a practical answer to this disappointing and lank finale. In my garden, the stems have their tips nipped out just before autumn, so that there is no helter-skelter race for the finish, no gangly spurt of growth. Instead, the spiralling power stops for a week or two, at 6ft or wherever you nip it out.

And then the subdivision of daisies starts straight away at six self-supporting feet. It is a perfectly acceptable performance, to round off a fabulous show. And if it is not good enough for you, you can always stick a large dahlia in the middle to finish the show with a bang.

STEPHEN ANDERTON



*Iris kerneriana* in May



*Helianthus salicifolius* gets into its mid-summer stride




■ Prune large-flowered clematis. Those which flower early in the summer and often again later, like 'Nelly Moser' and 'Lincoln Star', should be tidied up, and thin or dead growth should be removed. Hard cutting now removes their first crop of flowers. Those like the purple 'Jackmannii' and 'Niobe' which flower in late summer should be cut down to knee high, to make a new structure. Feed with 4in of manure or compost.

■ Dress the soil below well-established hedges and topiary with a handful of bonemeal to the square yard. Second-year hedges will benefit from a heavier feeding and a good mulch, as will young topiary. Bonemeal is a slow-acting fertiliser and is beneficial to plants which grow hard and need to be cut hard.

■ Where hedge-bottom weeds are a problem, an application now of a residual granular herbicide such as Casoron G4 (dichlobenil) will kill seedling weeds at germination. Residual weedkillers must not be used on anything which has been newly planted, they are for established plants.

■ Sow early salad crops (lettuce, radishes) under glass or even in a frame or cloche during mild spells. Try Thompson and Morgan's sweet lettuce 'Sherwood'.

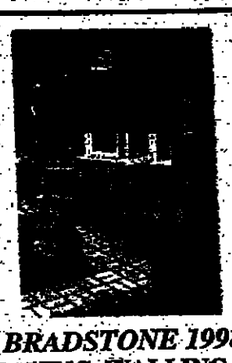
■ On a dry windy day, slice off seedling weeds in the vegetable patch with a sharp hoe. Resist the temptation to cut back winter-damaged or flood-damaged grey and Mediterranean plants until April. (Artemisias, curry plant, santolina, brachyglottis, etc.) Cutting now often kills outright, or encourages low dormant buds to break just in time to be hit by spring frosts.

■ Herbaceous plants whose stalks have been left to stand through the winter should be cut down now and the stalks removed to the compost heap. These coarse, brittle stalks make a good airy base for a new-season compost heap.

هكذا من الاصل



# HOMES AND GARDENS BROCHURE REPLY

① 

**BRADSTONE 1998**
**PAVING, WALLING & DRIVEWAY CATALOGUE**

Full of brilliant ideas our new 1998 catalogue will help you plan your ideal garden. Contact us now for your FREE copy and we will also send you details of our video and new CD Rom.

Simply call 0800 919164 (24 hrs)

② **FARMINGTON FIRESPLACES**



**NATURAL LIMESTONE FIRE SURROUNDS**

Farmington fireplaces are the UK's best selling natural stone fire surrounds - for details of their Winter Sale

Telephone free on 0800 7310071 or fax 01451 860115
Dept TT, Northleach, Cheltenham, Glos GL54 3NZ

**Classic leather... from Cresta**



③ by tetrad

TELEPHONE FOR QUOTATION/ BROCHURE ON 01772 797474 or 709638

Open 7 days CRESTA the tetrad specialists

RIBBLETON LANE, PRESTON, (ADJACENT TO tetrad FACTORY)



**Quality Shines through with BAC**

BAC Limited is the longest established replacement window and conservatory company in the UK, with over 32 years experience. During that time we've achieved a record eight British Standard Institute product kitemarks, independent proof of the BAC commitment to quality, backed by a ten year Guarantee.

④ **Only BAC offer...**

- Windows,Doors and Conservatories tailor made from PVC-U or Hardwood.
- Heritage range - PVC-U box sash windows.
- Homecare range - PVC-U roofline products.
- 28 showcentres throughout the south.
- Freephone today for a free quotation or brochure.

FREEPHONE 0800 666 444

BAC WINDOWS·DOORS CONSERVATORIES

**"Now you can afford to sink into feathers"** ⑤



If it's quality and affordability you're after look no further. Buy your new sofa and chairs direct from Classic Choice and you'll get guaranteed quality and save £100's on retail prices.

For a copy of our "GOOD SOFA GUIDE" PHONE NOW ON 01656 725111 or write to:

CLASSIC CHOICE

Classic Choice, Dept. SDT 0702, Bryncoryn, Bridgend, Mid Glamorgan, CF32 9TD

**RECLAIMED NATURAL STONE PAVING FLAGS EXTERNAL AND INTERNAL GRADE**



- TRADE PRICES TO THE PUBLIC
- NEW YORKSTONE
- NATIONWIDE DELIVERY
- FREE COLOUR BROCHURE

⑥

Tel: 0161 776 4510 Fax: 0161 776 4540

Cairn Paving Products, Carrington Business Park, Carrington, Manchester M31 4YR

**Fed up with dampness, steamy windows, mould, musty smells and poor air quality?**

**Would you pay 1p a day to reduce these problems?**

**Does your home have a loft?**

**Yes? Then...**

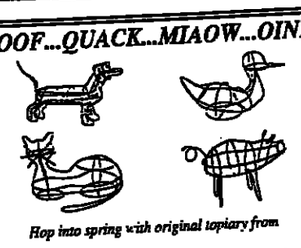
we can ⑦ help



FREECall 0800 85 06 06 for your FREE video about the NuAire D5



**WOOF...QUACK...MIAOW...OINK**



*Hop into spring with original topiary from*

THE WADHAM TRADING COMPANY

Wadham House, Southrop, Nr Lechlade, Glos, GL7 3PB ⑧
Tel & Fax 01367 850 499

Please Telephone, fax or write for our brochure of over 35 topiary frames and other exciting decorative items for the garden, conservatory and home.

⑨ JOSEPH TURNER



Introductory Offer- superb pure two-fold cotton shirts from just £26 *Plus* distinctive cufflinks and silk ties.

For your FREE mail order brochure phone 01845 575100 or e-mail: sales@josephturner.co.uk Ref. T104

**"Now you can afford to sink into feathers"** ⑤



If it's quality and affordability you're after look no further. Buy your new sofa and chairs direct from Classic Choice and you'll get guaranteed quality and save £100's on retail prices.

For a copy of our "GOOD SOFA GUIDE" PHONE NOW ON 01656 725111 or write to:

CLASSIC CHOICE

Classic Choice, Dept. SDT 0702, Bryncoryn, Bridgend, Mid Glamorgan, CF32 9TD

**RECLAIMED NATURAL STONE PAVING FLAGS EXTERNAL AND INTERNAL GRADE**



- TRADE PRICES TO THE PUBLIC
- NEW YORKSTONE
- NATIONWIDE DELIVERY
- FREE COLOUR BROCHURE

⑥

Tel: 0161 776 4510 Fax: 0161 776 4540

Cairn Paving Products, Carrington Business Park, Carrington, Manchester M31 4YR

**Fed up with dampness, steamy windows, mould, musty smells and poor air quality?**

**Would you pay 1p a day to reduce these problems?**

**Does your home have a loft?**

**Yes? Then...**

we can ⑦ help



FREECall 0800 85 06 06 for your FREE video about the NuAire D5



**WOOF...QUACK...MIAOW...OINK**



*Hop into spring with original topiary from*

THE WADHAM TRADING COMPANY

Wadham House, Southrop, Nr Lechlade, Glos, GL7 3PB ⑧
Tel & Fax 01367 850 499

Please Telephone, fax or write for our brochure of over 35 topiary frames and other exciting decorative items for the garden, conservatory and home.

⑨ JOSEPH TURNER



Introductory Offer- superb pure two-fold cotton shirts from just £26 *Plus* distinctive cufflinks and silk ties.

For your FREE mail order brochure phone 01845 575100 or e-mail: sales@josephturner.co.uk Ref. T104

NEW THE AMAZING **PATIO PEACH** GROW INDOORS OR OUT



Easy even in poor soils. Completely frost hardy. A charming vigorous novelty. FREE growing hints. Choose from PEACH, CHERRY, PEAR, APPLE, PLUM, NECTARINE, APRICOT and ALMOND.

£12 each, Any 3 for £25, 5 or more just £6 each.

SPECIAL HALF-PRICE OFFER

DUAL & TRIPLE BUDDED FRUIT TREES

THREE DIFFERENT VARIETIES ON ONE TREE!



3 IN ONE

Choose from Triple Apple (Cox, James Grieve, Russet); Dual Pear (Conference & Louise); Dual Plum (Various); Dual Cherry (Van & Napoleon) ⑪

List price is £24, but you can buy at your SPECIAL OFFER SALE PRICE of just £12 each or any 2 or more at £10 each.

All prices include P&P

CHEQUES/P.O.'S TO: PLANTWORLD Times Offer No. 3 Burnham Road, South Woodham Ferrers, Essex CM3 5QP

⑫ 

The Easybathe... for those with special needs

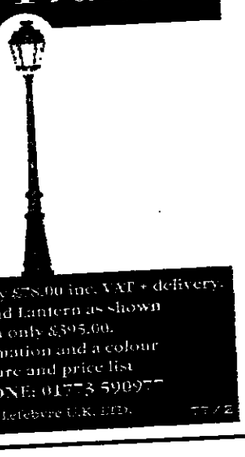
A deep soaking bath which allows easy access.
Integral seat complete with contoured backrest.
Complete installation service & free advice line.
Wide range of colours.

Premier BATHROOMS

Ring today on 0800 018 0088

Premier Bathrooms, FREEPOST BM4591, Birmingham, B38 8BR

**Petite France**



Lanterns from only £78.00 inc VAT + delivery. Column and Lantern as shown from only £395.00. For information and a colour brochure and price list TELEPHONE: 01773 590977 Claude Lefebvre U.K. Ltd.

⑬

**Regency Awnings Limited**

Would You Like To:

- Make the most of your patio and garden this year?
- Enjoy your barbecue without the risk of rain spoiling your day?
- Reduce glare onto your sitting room without obscuring the views to your garden?
- Protect your internal furnishings and carpets from fade?

We Can Offer You:

- A wide range of awnings and blinds to suit all windows,doors and patio doors.
- A superb range of fabrics and colours to match your exterior decor or colour scheme.
- Expert installation by our own fully trained fitters.
- A full 5 year guarantee which includes free on site service checks additionally free.

Please fax a FREE no obligation quotation or request brochure

01494 793998 ⑭

**THE TIMES**

*Presents*

**HOMES AND GARDENS**

**Brochure Reply Service**

To receive up to five of the above brochures please indicate your choice below:

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Mr/Mrs/Miss: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Please return to: THE TIMES HOMES AND GARDENS, PO BOX 1, TADCASTER, N. YORKSHIRE LS24 9XY or Fax your request on: 01937 538469

Any monies required for catalogues should be sent in the form of a cheque made payable to the appropriate advertiser.

TO ADVERTISE CALL: 0171 481 1920 FAX: 0171 481 9313

# HOMES & GARDENS

TO ADVERTISE CALL: 0171 481 1920 FAX: 0171 481 9313

**HARD WATER** *The scientific solution*



We believe Krystal is the only water softener worth fitting.

- Advanced computer technology with automatic 24-hour, 365-day programme
- Compact size means installation is never a problem - even in the smallest spaces
- Universal performance - Krystal is exceeding expectations where others fail

FIVE YEAR GUARANTEE

Lime scale problems? Krystal can clear the whole house for less than £80!
Hard-water hands? Krystal gives you soft water from every tap
Clogged-up shower heads? Krystal keeps them clean and clear
Stains in the basin? not with Krystal

Fit Krystal yourself. NO plumbing, NO maintenance, NO chemicals and less than £2 a year to run.

NO-RISK HOME TRIAL - we give you 90 DAYS to try Krystal IN YOUR OWN HOME

Call Free 0800 590050 Lines open 24 hours, 7 days For your free brochure

Clearflow Ltd, 47-48 High St, Hungerford, Berks RG17 0NE Tel: 01488 687686 Fax: 01488 685411 TRADE AND OVERSEAS ENQUIRIES WELCOMED



**SUPERIOR QUALITY GATES**

DIRECT TO YOU FROM THE **CANNOCK GATES FACTORY**

*All at Factory Prices*

Craftsmen made using SUPERB SCANDINAVIAN REDWOOD

Huge selection available in singles and pairs made by craftsmen in prime timber from farmed forests. Available in a selection of sizes to grace the homes of discerning house holders.





DON'T BUY A GATE UNTIL YOU SEE OUR COMPLETE RANGE OF TIMBER & WROUGHT IRON GATES

NO Middlemans Profits to Pay! DESIGNS TO SUIT ALL TYPES OF PROPERTIES - LARGE OR SMALL

SINGLES • DOUBLES • LOW RIDERS





SEND FOR FREE COLOUR CATALOGUE OVER 200 DESIGNS & SIZES TO CHOOSE FROM

PRICES FROM ONLY £29

VISIT OUR FACTORY SHOP AND DISPLAY GARDEN OPEN 7 days a week

24-HOUR PHONELINE 01543 462500 FOR YOUR FREE CATALOGUE

or write to: CANNOCK GATES LTD., (Dept TT0798), HAWKS GREEN, CANNOCK, STAFFS WS11 2XT

UK MAINLAND ONLY. If you do not wish to receive mailings from carefully selected companies please advise us.



DOBIES

The BEST new young plants are in the Dobies Plant Catalogue

Send for your FREE catalogue now

Petunia Prism Sunshine best ever yellow Petunia

RING 01803 616 888 quoting PRG or write to Samuel Dobie & Son, Dept. PRG, Broomhill Way, Torquay TQ2 7QW.



Original BOX-SASH or HINGED WINDOWS, FRONT DOORS, FRENCH DOORS

The finest timber superbly crafted. Double glazed. The friendliest help and service.

Write or 'phone for free Handbook ORIGINAL BOX SASH WINDOW CO (Dept.DC) FREEPOST 28, Unit 10, Bridgewater Way, Windsor, Berks SL4 1BR. 01753 858196

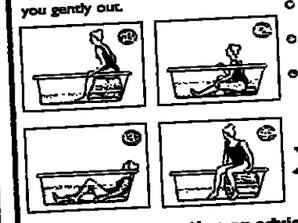
**YOU CAN LIE DOWN AND RELAX AGAIN**



Need help to get in or out of the bath or - worse - have had to stop bathing altogether? Then all your problems are over. The unique Bath Bubble, with its easy to use hand control, gently lowers you all the way to the bottom of your bath.

**WITH THE 'UNIQUE' NEW BATH BUBBLE!**

After a long relaxing soak, slowly re-inflate the Bath Bubble to raise you gently out.



- No bulky built-in chair or unsightly fixings.
- Suits all types of baths, even smaller ones.
- Safe, quick and easy to use - requires no installation.
- Pack it in its handy travel bag and take it with you anywhere.

AWARD WINNING DESIGN



For FREE information or advice call on FREEPHONE 0800 132061

AQUABILITY EASY SAFE BATHING

Or write to: AQUABILITY (UK) Ltd, FREEPOST 3071, Aldershot GU11 2BR

**WATCH OUT THIEVES ABOUT**



STOP THIEF!

FREE FITTING LIMITED OFFER

**GUARDIAN SECURITY SHUTTERS HELP KEEP YOUR HOME & POSSESSIONS SAFE & SOUND**

Fitted to your windows and doors they are the ideal deterrent for thieves or intruders. No wonder over 25 million homeowners throughout Europe are now enjoying the peace of mind Security Shutters can bring. Fully fitted by our team of installers in a choice of colours, either electronically or manually operated... they are the ideal solution for home security.

- Made from tough, high Security, maintenance - free aluminium.
- Durable stove-enamelled finish. Available in a range of colours.
- Fully installed by Guardian's own highly skilled craftsmen.

FOR A FREE BROCHURE RING 01484 461010 NORTH 0171 581 4443 SOUTH

OR RETURN THE COUPON BELOW WITHOUT OBLIGATION

FREEPOST · SEND TODAY · NO STAMP REQUIRED

Post to: GUARDIAN SECURITY SHUTTERS, FREEPOST, HF3 118, HUDDERSFIELD, HD3 3LL

MR/MRS/MS _____

TELEPHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

_____

_____

_____

POSTCODE _____

GUARDIAN YOUR PROPERTY PROTECTOR

ONLY £95 DEPOSIT*



"Churchill's are the only stairlift company I trust, and I recommend them to you" DAME THORA HIRD

special offer

Phone now free! and Churchill's will give you a 30 day money back guarantee*

- Installation often within 3 days
- Most stairs fitted
- Value guaranteed

Call Churchill's 0800 371 982

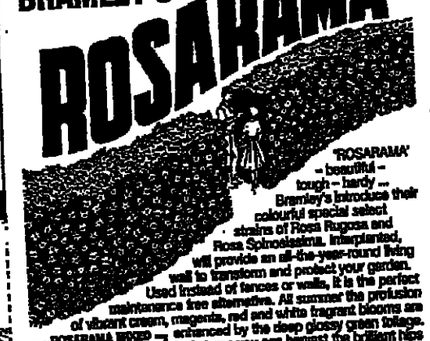
Call FREE now and ask for Christine, Clare or Jean for a FREE home consultation 7 DAYS A WEEK 9AM-6PM

Nationwide 7 day service

Churchill's Stairlifts plc THE STAIRLIFT EXPERTS

*applies only to promotional new straight lifts.

**NEW From BRAMLEY'S ROSARAMA**



'ROSARAMA' – beautiful – tough – hardy – Bramley's introduce their colourful special select strains of Rosa Rugosa and Rosa Spinosissima. Interplanted, will provide an all-the-year-round living wall to transform and protect your garden. Used instead of fences or walls, it is the perfect maintenance free alternative. All summer the profusion of vibrant cream, magenta, red and white fragrant blooms are enhanced by the deep glossy green foliage. In Autumn you can harvest the brilliant hips which are very rich in Vitamin 'C'. (Jelly recipe sent).

Plant 18 inches apart in rich or even poor soil, for a fast growing hedge that rapidly reaches 6 to 7 feet high. The ideal choice.

ROSARAMA HEDGE

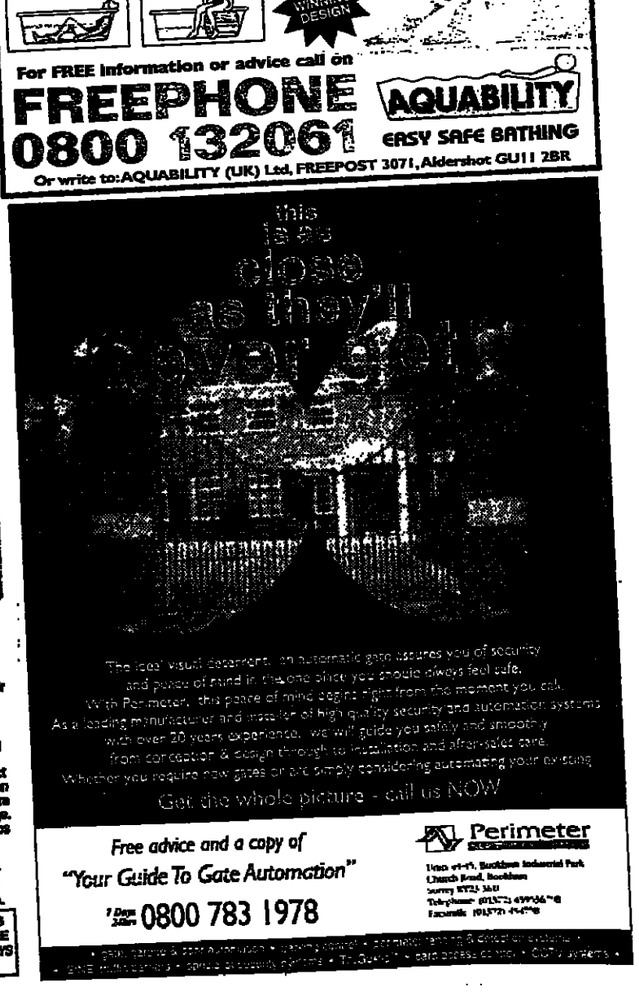
10 FOR £11.30
20 FOR £17.75
50 FOR £37.50

All orders plus £2.15 part & pkg

POST YOUR ORDER NOW!

GALLERY WELCOME OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

BRAMLEY'S NURSERIES (1776) 331 BENFLEET ROAD · SOUTH BENFLEET · ESSEX



this is as close as they'll ever get

The ideal visual deterrent, an automatic gate assures you of security and peace of mind in the one place you should always feel safe.

With Perimeter, this peace of mind begins right from the moment you ask. As a leading manufacturer and installer of high quality security and automation systems with over 20 years experience, we will guide you safely and smoothly from conception & design through to installation and after-sales care.

Whether you require new gates or are simply considering automating your existing

Get the whole picture - call us NOW

Free advice and a copy of "Your Guide To Gate Automation"

7 Days 0800 0783 1978

Perimeter SECURITY AUTOMATION

Unit 41-43, Beddlam Industrial Park, Church Road, Beddlam, Surrey RH2 3AH
Telephone (01737) 459456
Facsimile (01737) 454478

LONDON PROPERTY

**ON THE SOUTH BANK OF THE RIVER THAMES**

**A Development for Modern Living, Convenience and Leisure**

***Exceptional 1 bed apartments from £180,000***

**Tel: 0171 620 1500**

Marketing Suite Open 7 Days

**ZONE ALASKA**

TOWER BRIDGE QUARTER
LONDON SE1

**ENORMOUS!**

HIGH SPEC - FULLY FITTED

**LOFT APARTMENTS**

1,200 to 2,200 sq. feet

£115,000 - £225,000

TELEPHONE ALAN SELBY & PARTNERS:

0171 613 3055

## NORTH OF THE THAMES

**HARLEY HOUSE** Regents Park NW1. Unique opportunity to acquire an unrefurb Apt in this much sought-after mansion block arranged over ground & raised ground floors, comprising approximately 2,600sq ft. Price £615,000 All enquiries (IF) 0171 290 7979.

**LANCASTER GATE W2** Something unusual, exceptional investor designed 3000sq ft. Ground flr unit. 82ft recep, high ceilings, period features, superb kitchen/dining room, 4 dble beds, 3 baths. Must be seen £1,150,000 L/H Westbourne estate agents 0171 727 8612.

**MARYLEBONE, NW1.** Stunning 2 bed 2 bath split level conversion with balcony nr Regents Park. Offers in £287,995. Sandfords 0171 723 9988

**MARYLEBONE LANE, W1.** Beautiful one bedroom pied-a-terre by West End. £144,950. Sandfords 0171 723 9988

**MORTGAGEE SALE** Baker Street NW1. Large 2/3 bedroom flat in prime period portered block close to Regents Pk. £268,250 Sandfords 0171 723 9988

**PALACE COURT W2** Headlease of building overlooking Kensington Gardens. Which incorporates 6 flats, 3 vacant possession. 2 x 3 beds, dbl rec, kit, beds, etc. Ref: 1 x 1 beds, Lease 204S. £650,000 STC. Best Gapp 0171 730 9283.

**REDE PLACE W2** Unexpectedly re-available. 4 bedroom, double fronted mews house, 2 single garages. £330,000 F/H. Westbourne estate agents 0171 727 8612.

**ST JOHNS WOOD** (The Marlowes). Int. designed 4 bed, 3 recep house, OSP 2 cars. Paved gdn. £595,000. Nic Law: 0171 722 8844/0956 286 272.

**ST JOHNS WD,NW8.** Newly refurb mews cottage + parking. F/H reduced fr £289,995-£259,000 Sandfords 0171 723 9988

**THURROCK** Purpose built, 2 bedroom appartment overlooking Thames. Car port. Central London 25 minutes by BR. £49,900. Tel: 01375 391401.

**W14** 1 bedroom furnished 1st floor flat with balcony. £200pw. 0958 590781

**WESTBOURNE GROVE W2** Near us, must sell, 2 bed, 3rd flr cnvr. 20ft rec, lift. £150,000. 79 yrs lse. Westbourne Estate Agents 0171 727 8612.

**WESTBOURNE TERR, W2.** 2 bed 1st & 2nd fl mais, 2 baths, lift, both £235,000. 0171 724 9919

## SOUTH OF THE THAMES

**CLAPHAM** Abbeville Rd. Newly refurbished 4 beds houses, 30ft kitchen, large roof terrace and gdn. £315,000. 07970 718798.

**PUTNEY** Luxury spacious garden flat in West Putney. Two dble beds, two bath, large recep, lge kitch/breakfst rm, patio, gdn, deum, parking. £215,000 L/E Warren 0181 780 1100.

**PUTNEY** Perfect investment, cosy 1 bed ground floor flat. Nice gardens, off street parking (some 6700+pcm). Priced for quick sale £85,000 (sole agents Dyson). Tel: 0181 780 9994

GOLDSCHMIDT
Estate Agents & Valuers

**THE PENTHOUSE APARTMENT**
**NOTTINGHAM TERRACE**
**REGENTS PARK, NW1**

A spectacular 6th floor penthouse situated in this contemporary block benefiting from 24 hour porterage, garage and views over London. Drawing room, dining room/family room, guest cloakroom, kitchen/breakfast room, 3 bedroom suites all with ensuite facilities, bedroom 4/study, terracing around the whole apartment, garage, off street parking, air conditioning, Gas central heating, store room, video entryphone.

Sole Agents
Crown Estate Lease
Price: £1,250,000
Subject to Contract
Regent Park Office:
0171 724 4404

**WANDSWORTH COMMON**
Bright 6 bedroom, 3 bathroom Victorian house with original features, arranged over 3 floors. Large reception, dining rm, kitchen/breakfast rm, utility, study. Conservatory leading to southfacing walled garden.
No chain. £650,000.
Tel: 0181 767 0534 (H)
or 0589 035201

## BELGRAVIA

**EBURY STREET SW1** 4 flr apt in pblc recep, kit, 2 beds, bath cllr. storage rm, parrest, ulpground plg. Lse to 2064. £279,000 Best Gapp 0171 730 9283.

## CITY & WEST END

**BARBICAN EC2.** Please call for largest list of flats available for sale. Frank Harris & Co 0171 600 7000.

**CITY EC1.** Modern 2 bed, 2 bath flat with car parking in new purposed blk. £235,000. Frank Harris & Co 0171 600 7000.

**CITY RD EC1.** A new conversion of five one bedroom flats, close to Broadgate, 3 with terraces, views over Bonhill Fields prices from £163,500. Frank Harris & Co 0171 600 7000.

**CITY/TOWER BRIDGE** 3 newly cnvsr spacious 2 dble bd, 2 bth apts in period building short walk from St Katharines Dock & City fr £165,000 L/H Oliver Jaques 0171 702 1292

**TANNERS YARD, SE1** A selection of live/work units in this popular warehouse development Nr London & Tower Bridge. Secure n/grnd plcng. L/H & £172,500 Docklands Est 0171 790 7070

**W1** Prime Marylebone. Adj Bond St Tube and Oxford St. New refurb 2 bed 2 bath, liv/ din, study & cnvrs. £369,950. ESPS 0171 603 7679 fax 371 6546.

**W1** Stylish 2 dble bed 2nd floor Victorian conversion apt. £154,950 0171 221 9044.

## CITY DOCKLANDS & EAST

**BALTIC QUAY, SE16** A selection of 2 & 3 bed apts o/looking South Dock, porterage and n/grnd plcng close to Surrey Quays. L/H from £105,000 Docklands Est 0171 790 7070

**BARBICAN, EC2.** Longer type 5th floor studio, balcony, £96,000. Daniel Watney 0171 283 4414

**BARBICAN, EC2.** Studio flat 5th fl nr tube £89,950. Stock Page Stock 0171 251 4171

**DOCKLANDS** Barrells Wharf lux 2 bd 2 bth apt panoramic river views, 2 terraces, scr recep, use of a/pool & gym. £169,995 L/E Oliver Jaques 0171 702 1292

**LIMEHOUSE E14** Unusual contemporary studio style hse in priv c/yard. Lg open plan recep/kit with dble hight ceiling, skylights, 2 beds, roof terrace, gdn, plcng. £225,000 F/H CityScope 0171 314 1612

**LIMEHOUSE** Stunning 2 dbl bed flat in new development with terr & river views. 999 yr lse £245,000 DTZ 0171 408 3738

**PAPERMILL WHARF, E14** A luxurious 2 bed triplex apt, 2 baths. Situated in popular Narrow St Lge roof terrace, stunning views, secure parking. L/H £475,000 Docklands Estates 0171 790 7070

**QUAY 430** Two Bed, Two bath duplex, guest cloakroom, balcony, garage, plus parking space. Share of Freehold £187,000 exno 01732 780779

**TOWER BRIDGE** Sun open plan 1,140 sqft w/boat conv in New Concordia Wharf 5th flr, lnlc, dock & River views, scr plcng, a/pool, porter. Priced for quick sale. No Chain. £260,000 L/H CityScope 0171 314 1612

## DULWICH

**FRIBEN ROAD SE22** Overlooking Ruskin Park. 3 bed, bath flat/hse, 3 receps, 35ft rear garden. £199,950 F/H. Boshells Dulwich. 0181 299 1722.

**HILLCOURT ROAD SE22** 4 bed Vic. house, 2 recep, kit/brkfast rm, cnsv, 125ft rear garden. £195,000 F/H Boshells Dulwich, 0181 299 1722.

## DULWICH

**VICARAGE GROVE SE5** Newly refurb. 4 dble bed house set in Victorian sq, in Camberwell. £205,000 F/H. Boshells Dulwich. 0181 299 1722.

## FULHAM

**AN** Attract & well proportioned Vict Hse close to South Park. 3 bed, bath, shwr, dble recep, kit/din, 20' west fac gdn. £245,000 Yeatmans 0171 736 9822

## GREENWICH

**BLISSART** Stucco-fronted grade II listed terrace house near park. 5 beds, secluded 90 ft garden. 16 mins city/Can Wharf. £485,000. 0181 692 2966

## HIGHBURY/ ISLINGTON

**ISLINGTON** Borders, N1. 3 bed 2nd & 3rd fl cnsv mais, roof terr, nr tube. £145,000. Stock Page Stock 0171 251 4171.

## KENSINGTON & CHELSEA

**PORTOBELLO RD** W10 Bright open studio apt, sep kit/bath £64,950 0171 221 9044.

**PROPERTY EYE HOMESEARCH.** Consultants London. Fr. new home to fit. 0701 221110.

**WEST KENSINGTON** 2 bedroom flat for sale by auction. 19th February 1998 Andrews & Robertson 0171 703 2662

## MAYFAIR

**OPPORTUNITY**

To acquire shared free hold 999 year lease flat, 1 reception, 3 bedrooms, 2 bath ( ensuite), Fully fitted kitchen. Low service charge. Very access period building. 24hr porterage. Quiet residential street.

**£495,000.**
**Tel: 0171 495 1712**
(no agents)

## RICHMOND & KINGSTON

**RICHMOND** Spacious, charming Victorian cottage, 4 bedrooms walk to stations, 2 double beds, parking, good size garden. Fine features and fittings throughout. £234,950. Tel: Wilson on 0181 948 5422.

## WIMBLEDON

**DUNDONALD RD** House arranged as two flats for sale by auction. 19th February 1998 Andrews & Robertson 0171 703 2662

**WIMBLEDON SW19**

Elegant 4 bed 2 bath semi det house close village/all amenities. Ideal for conversion. Large drawing/dining rm/ Conservatory, family rm, fitted kit, utility rm, cloakrm, offst plg 2 cars, pretty gdn. £550,000 F/H.

**Tel/fax 0181 408 2908**
Private sale

## BRISTOL

**COUNTY HOMESEARCH CO** Professional service for buyers. Save time, effort, money. Brochure 0117 974 1569

## CORNWALL

**GWEEK** Head of Helford River, elegant spacious semi/detching 3 bed apt in splendid conversion of unique stone corn mill. Cloakrm, bathrm, L shape lounge/diner. Custom made fitted cupboards/drawers throughout. £79,950. 01326 221762

## COTSWOLDS

**CHIPPING MARKET TOWER.** Spacious 5-bed town hse, dating from 16th C with Georgian facade. Gas CH, Private gdn. Dble Gge. Offers over £295K. Taylor & Fletcher 01608 646344

**COTSWOLDS**

Luxury apartment in magnificent Grade 2 listed Manor mill in 6 acres. Drawing room, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, kitchen. Breakfast room/gym. Tennis court, video entry. Caretaker. Superior leisure complex and tennis courts. Very small private garden.
£228,000.
**Tel: 01252 718371 or 0802 651108**

## DEVON

**COUNTY HOMESEARCH CO** Prof service for purchasers in Devon & Cwall.01872 223349

**EXMOUTH** 1960's detached 2 bed bungalow. Outstanding estuary/coastal views. £85,000. Tel: 01392 466698. No chain.

## HAMPSHIRE

**LYMINGTON, HAMPSHIRE.**

*Choice of three country homes with quality and style. Three 4/5 bed properties offer a rare combination of spacious accomodation, manageable landscaped gardens, in a country setting and close to the excellent amenities of Lymington town.*

**OUR SUPERB SHOW HOME IS NOW OPEN ON WEDNESDAYS, SATURDAYS AND SUNDAYS FROM 9.30 A.M. - 4 P.M.**

***PRICES FROM £325,000.***

*For further details*
Tel: 01590-679446/01590-676033

## KENT

**DEAL** Seafront penthouse, fine views Hall, c/room, dble recep, kit, refl, 2 beds, 2 baths, 27 ft rge £139,950. 01304 381188

**KENT/SUSSEX BORDERS** Wooded sheltered 3 Acre site for 5/6/bedroom 4,000 sq ft Millwood Designer House. Built to your own specification plus indoor swimming pool, tennis court, cottage, garage. Strutt & Agents Country Property (Open seven days) Tel: 01580 211888.

## NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

**OUNDLE** Stone built executive 4 & 5 bed homes from £199,950. Call 0800 9800989 for details

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

**COUNTY HOMESEARCH CO** Will find & secure your ideal home. 0114 268 2855

## OXFORDSHIRE

**DRAYTON** Bustling village located approx 3 miles from Abingdon. An impressive 5 bedroom detached family home, now under construction. Situated in a gated, private drive screen across the road from village shop, pub and bus resp. £310,000 Spring 98 completion. Tel Adlrh 01235 526060

## SCOTLAND

**COUNTY HOMESEARCH CO** Prof personal service for purchasers. Brochure 01577 863926.

## SURREY

**A** Superbly presented semi detached property forming part of the Royal Gate Development, Ham Village which is ideally situated for local shops and bus routes and within close proximity to River Thames and Richmond Park. £179,950 Freehold Tel: 0181 280 3060.

## SURREY

**NEW MALDEN** - Link-det. recently. 2/3 Beds. 2 Recps. CCE. DG 9th facing Gdn. Gge. Indoor sw/pooling pool. £189,950. 0181 944 6844.

**Nr Guildford.** GUIO £350,000. Ash village. Late 17th Century det. cottage needs refurb, about 4.5 acres, views over common land. 4 bedms, 2 recps. Outbuildings. Exposed beams. Great potential. Watenall, D'ament & Bentley (01483) 772773.

**REIGATE**
Trains approx 40 mins London Bridge/Victoria, Stunning completely refurbished period **PENTHOUSE APARTMENT.**
5 Rooms incl. lower, kitchen/Dining rm 2 baths, Roof gdn, Panoramic Views to South & West.
GUIDE £225,000
Crow Watkin
01737 245888

## COUNTRY PROPERTY

**SOUTH ASCOT, BERKS**
**£1.25 Million**



*A highly individual brand new house currently under construction by Kingsway Homes to provide over 5,800 sq ft of accommodation occupying grounds of about 1.5 acres.*

- 5 bedrooms
- 5 Bath/Shower (4En-suite)
- 5 Reception Rooms
- Recep Hall with Central Staircase
- Triple Width Garage with Playroom above

Call (01344) 845050
For Colour Brochure

Buckinghams

**BIDWELLS**
PROPERTY CONSULTANTS

**SUFFOLK**
**Nr. WOODBRIDGE**

Melton Park is a development of New Homes and Conversions by the award winning East Anglian developer Hopkins Homes Ltd.

The exclusive homes are in a parkland setting and range from £110,000 for a 3 bedroom house, £176,000 for a 4 bedroom house and £235,000 for a 5 bedroom house.

For a brochure please call
Vicky Goodchild at the Show Home
Tel: 01394 387587

HOPKINS HOMES

LONDON PROPERTY

**LAST REMAINING EXCELLENT VALUE 2 BED APARTMENTS**

MOST IN EXCESS OF 1,200 SQ FT

*Prices from £315,000*

Tel: 0171 620 1500

Marketing Suite Open 7 Days

## SUSSEX

**ROTTINGDEAN** Village. Charming cottage, unique position, 4 bed. GDO £210,000 01273 300625.

**SOUTH OF CHICHESTER**
5 mins from sea, 3 double bed detached house FGCH, part double glazed, 29' living room with feature fire place, dining room, fully fitted kitchen/ b/fast room, hall, bathroom. 2 w/c's, detached 28' garage/ workshop Plus offstreet parking for 2 cars or boat & caravan. £139,000 ono.
Tel: 01243 607903

## WALES

**COUNTY HOMESEARCH CO** Professional service to find & secure your next property. Carmarthen 0845 600 0106.

## WILTSHIRE

**WILTSHIRE/M4** Corridor. We specialise in finding quality properties in and around the cities of Swindon, Bath and Bristol. Relocation & Property Management Ltd. Tel: 01249 335862. Fax: 01225 334407

## YORKSHIRE

**COUNTY HOMESEARCH CO** will find & secure your ideal home in N/W/S Yorks. 01423 890007.

## HOME SEARCH

**MICHAEL CHANDLER** TRCGI. Hants, Wilts, Dorset, Berks, Surrey. Tel/Fax 01726 861182

## CARIBBEAN

**ANTIGUA** Lux 3 bed, Furnished Beach villa, pool. £260K. Tel/Fax 0171 930 0835.

## FRANCE

**COTE D'AZUR**
**Villefranche Sur Mer.**
**Deluxe Duplex Apartment.**
120sq metres in select block with gardens & Pool. Superb position due south, stunning sea views. Spacious salon leading to large terrace. Fitted kitchen. Guest cloakroom. 3 beds with balconys. 2 bathrooms, 1 shower suite. Air Conditioning.
£350,000.
Tel: 0171 3796888(Office)
or 0570 346517 (Eves/Wknd)

**PORT GRIMAUD, NEAR ST TROPEZ**
Lovely four bedroom, two bathroom terraced house with mooring. Fully furnished to high standard. English operatives available to look after house. Ready to walk in! £295,000.
For further details, call:
0171 235 7555
or fax: 0171 235 7287.

**SOUTHWEST FRANCE**
Between Biarritz and Cabbieres, close to beaches and pyrenees, 10 miles from airport, one hour drive to ski slopes. Fully Renovated 19th Century Country House in landscaped grounds of 3/4 acre, stones and tiled roof, 10 rooms, 5 bedrooms, living area 2,600sq. ft, double garage, outbuildings. Price 780,000 FF.
Contact owner in Canada:
Home:001 514 455 2870
Fax: 001 514 455 0583

LONDON PROPERTY

**LIVE ON LONDON'S SUPERB SOUTH BANK AND ENJOY RIVER VIEWS at THE WHITE HOUSE**

*2 bed apartments from £299,000*

Tel: 0171 620 1500

Marketing Suite Open 7 Days

LONDON PROPERTY

**Seeing is Believing**



Views across the City from One Britton Street

**Clerkenwell**

**Brand New in Cl**

Third & Final Phase

**One Britton Street**

Britton Street, London EC1 - Located opposite Clerkenwell Green

**Show Flat Open Daily from 10am-6pm Tel: 0171 250 0675**

*High specification includes:*

100% Newly built 1,2,&3 Bed Apartments

Fully Fitted Kitchens incl. all appliances

Maple/Beech wood, ceramic and carpet flooring throughout

Built in Wardrobes to master bedrooms

Fully independent Gas central heating

Video entry and security alarm system

Secure underground parking available for selected units

10 Year NHBC



| Two Remaining | Ten Remaining | Three Remaining | One |
|---|---|---|---|
| One bedroom flats £170,000 and £180,000 | Two bedroom flats £280,000 to £425,000 | Two/Three bedroom Duplex garden flats £485,000 to £550,000 | Three Bedroom 5th Floor Flat with terrace £450,000 |

HAMPTONS INTERNATIONAL

0800 0181513
0171 226 4688

AN EXCLUSIVE READER OFFER THE TIMES

# ORDER YOUR HEALING BINDER TODAY

Today, *The Times* launches **Healing**, the definitive guide to complementary medicine. Over the next six weeks, **Healing** will combine to form a 192-page A-Z guide to the treatment of about 200 ailments, and will focus on more than 30 beneficial therapies. **Part 1** of **Healing** is inserted in today's Times Magazine.

The series includes articles by the leading figures in the world of complementary medicine, as well as interviews with celebrities such as Clint Eastwood, Marie Helvin, Annabel Croft, Henry Dent-Brocklehurst and Boy George, who reveal their favourite alternative health regimes. Health farms are reviewed, bath products are scrutinised, and the effects of different foods and supplements are carefully digested.

**Healing** will be a valuable work of reference. To ensure you keep all six parts in pristine condition, a high-quality binder is available, costing just £2.49. You can order the binder by calling our hotline on **01525 851 945** or by using the coupon below.




**THE TIMES HEALING BINDER ORDER FORM**

Mr/Mrs/Ms/Miss .....

Address .....

..... Postcode .....

Please send me ..... (enter quantity) of *The Times* Healing binders @ £2.49 each including p&p. (Add £1 for Rol). I enclose a cheque/postal order(s) payable to: *The Times* FX296.

Value £ ..... No .....

Or debit my Visa/Mastercard number:

Print Name ..... Date .....

Signature ..... Exp date .....

Send coupon with remittance to: *The Times* Healing Binder Offer, FX296, PO Box 6[illegible] Buzzing Bees Rd, TZ26 [illegible]. Allow 28 days for delivery [illegible] UK and Irish Republic only. Please write name and address on back of [illegible] to receive further details [illegible]

1. On which days do you [illegible]
Monday ☐ Tuesday ☐ [illegible] ☐
Friday ☐ Saturday ☐

2. Which other national [illegible]

3. Which national Sunday [illegible]

4. Which national [illegible]

If you would prefer not to receive [illegible] organisations carefully selected by [illegible] ☐

CHANGING TIMES

THE TIMES WEEKEND · SATURDAY FEBRUARY 7 1998

# Stars who wish they were there

**From the modest to the majestic, the rich and famous choose their dream homes. Rachel Kelly reports**

DES JENSON



Emily Lloyd would fulfil her thespian aspirations as queen of the castle at Hackwood Park estate in Hampshire, where there are nine principal bedrooms to choose from

If money was no object and distance no obstacle, where would you live? The actress Emily Lloyd would settle on a sumptuous estate in Hampshire, and fellow thespian Anthony Andrews would fulfil his dream of being a knight in shining armour at a Scottish castle. Tory MP Peter Bottomley is even more escapist. His wish is for a house in Shanghai, to flee the parliamentary whips.

Estate agents Knight Frank asked celebrity would-be buyers to choose a dream home from their current catalogue. In return, the firm has given a donation to the Young Macmillan Nurses Appeal.

The choices range from the grand and imposing to the more modest but still intriguing. Mr Andrews, the star of *Ivanhoe* and *Brideshead Revisited*, says he would move to the £5.5 million Taymouth Castle estate in Perthshire. The picturesque palace, overlooking 450 acres of meadows and woodland, was immortalised in the Robert Burns poem, in which he talks of "The Tay, meand'ring sweet in infant pride, the palace rising on its verdant side."

Mr Andrews says: "Deep down, every little boy still has locked away in the corner of his mind the fantasy of knights in shining armour, beautiful maidens, a chivalrous age."

Emily Lloyd, star of *A River Runs Through It* and *Wish You Were Here*, displays similarly dramatic aspirations, selecting the Hackwood Park estate in Hampshire and casting herself as queen of the castle.

"I could imagine myself living there," she muses, although she might find choosing between the nine principal bedrooms something of a challenge, to say nothing of the dilemma of seven reception rooms. The Grade II listed mansion with Grade I listed woodland and 2,600 acres of land, has a price tag of £15-£20 million.

Perhaps surprisingly, the comedian and former Virgin Radio host Jonathan Coleman is more modest. He wishes for a £2 million farmhouse in peaceful Oxfordshire.

"It looks comfortable," he says. "Homely . . . and a great place to entertain friends." To this end, one of the property's distinctive features is a spacious dining room adjoining the kitchen, well-lit during the day by large French windows. There are five bedrooms, a living room with a galleried entertainment area, an expansive indoor pool complex and a stream bankd by weeping willows.

Tim Rice is dissatisfied with his imposing Barnes house overlooking the Thames and has his sights on Campbell Park in New Zealand. The village includes 40 houses, a theatre, 150-seat restaurant, and an airstrip.

This, no doubt, would provide ample space for Mr Rice to pursue his favourite sport, cricket. The 400 residents who are already tenants might be more hostile, though. "I could set up a dictatorship with ease — and bungee jumping is but two hours away."

A short plane ride would allow Mr Rice to visit the renowned psychic Uri Geller, who says he can see himself as the owner of Laucala Island on Fiji, an enchanting tropical island with mango trees and tropical birds.

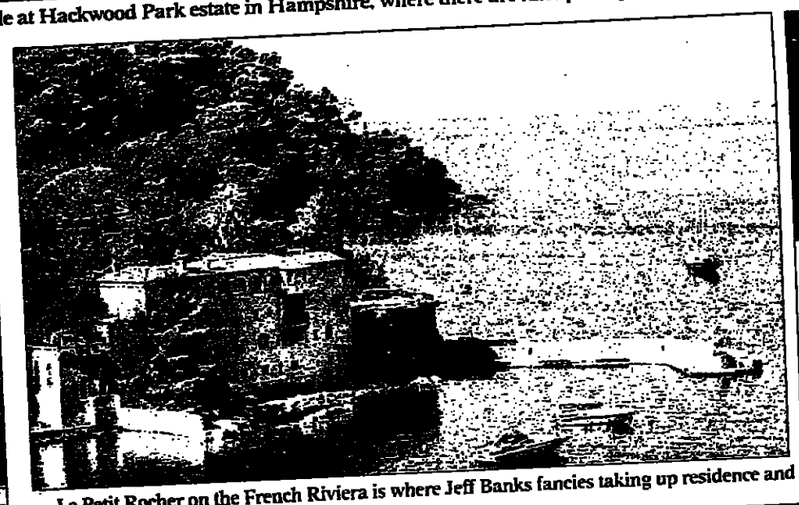
Those less keen on fruitbats can take solace in the main house, which belonged to the late Malcolm Forbes, the American millionaire who was editor-in-chief and chairman of *Forbes* magazine. Or, if they wanted somewhere more intimate, they could select one of seven one or two-bedroom guest chalets, a church and a school. There is even a private airfield nestling among the 3,000 acres.



Frank Williams picks Surrey



The 18th-century Deer Tower is Mr Williams's choice



Le Petit Rocher on the French Riviera is where Jeff Banks fancies taking up residence and making social calls by boat



But never doubt Mr Geller's good faith. He wishes to buy the house so he can sell it again. "Then I would give the $11,000,000 (£6.85 million) to the Young Macmillan Nurses and Save the Children." Mr Geller lives on a Thameside estate in Berkshire.

Peter Bottomley chose the Dynasty Villa in Shanghai, China. This complex, still under construction, will include 200 luxury three or five-bedroom single houses, of which 74 have so far been completed. The houses mix oriental architecture and features to attract western buyers: all will have air conditioning, satellite TV and private gardens.

The villa is managed by Knight Frank, and residents will have complimentary membership of a health club. For Mr Bottomley, though, location is everything. "It is away from the party whips," he says. "In time I might be living in the world's largest democracy. I like the food and the Chinese friendliness."

Several celebrities revealed that they have been harbouring a secret passion for the south of France. "I would love three weeks a year in an *unsocial* bit of south France," says MP Alan Clark by way of explanation for his selection, the Fr5.7 million (a little over £587,000) Ferme de Neissan. The house is an original Provençal farm with southerly views. Each of the six bedrooms has an adjoining bathroom or shower facilities.

"I have coveted Le Petit Rocher [at Saint Jean-Cap Ferrat] for many many years," he says. "But the Riviera is vile in summer . . ."

Summer notwithstanding, fashion designer Jeff Banks also covets Le Petit Rocher, because its waterfront location "means popping round to the neighbours by boat to borrow a cup of sugar makes a begging drudge a pleasure".

The house has eight bedrooms and three reception rooms and costs Fr70 million (about £7.2 million). He admits: "Hedonistic, yes; pleasurable, yes; greedy, yes; guilty — never."

For broadcaster Ed Stewart, however, the south of France represented a compromise. "This is the only property my wife Chiara and I agreed on," he says, referring to his selection of the Fr48 million (£4.9 million) La Vignette. "It's also very beautiful," he says. There are views to the sea and landscaped formal gardens.

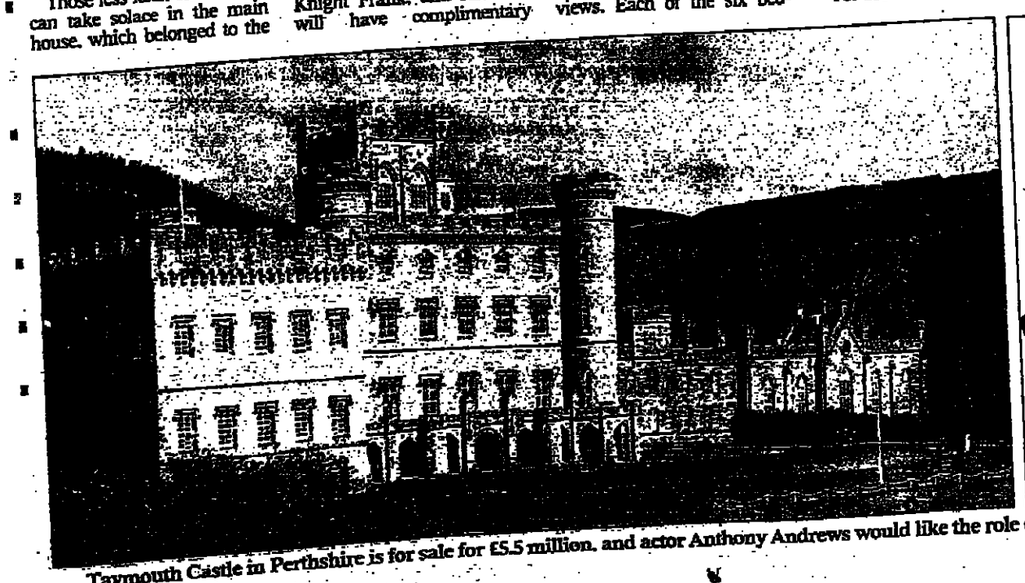
Others are quite happy to stay closer to home.

Formula One boss Frank Williams plumps for Deer Tower in Surrey, an 18th-century folly mimicking a romantic castle. There are three bedroom suites, an octagonal sitting room, a drawing room, a dining room and a kitchen.

The last word, as so often proves the case, must go to Britain's highest-paid female journalist, Anne Robinson, who lives in Kensington, west London. She hankers after nearby Ness Cottage. The 1840 house with conservatory, gym, swimming pool and garden is a snip at £3.65 million, she says. Deaming has clearly got in the way of her usual sober financial judgment.

● *Additional research by Adam Barnard*

REX





Taymouth Castle in Perthshire is for sale for £5.5 million, and actor Anthony Andrews would like the role of its knight in shining armour


EXCLUSIVE OFFER THE TIMES

## SEVEN NIGHTS IN CYPRUS FROM JUST £299

PLUS FREE CAR HIRE



Readers of *The Times* are offered a superb seven-night winter break in Cyprus from just £299 per person. Choose from the resorts of Limassol or Paphos, which both offer a wealth of history.

At Limassol you will see the remains of the ancient kingdom of Amathus, the crusader castle of Kolossi, the clifftop ruins of Kourion, and the temple of Apollo.

Paphos is the legendary birthplace of Aphrodite and as well as beautiful beaches you have the 2,300-year-old Tombs of the Kings, a Roman villa and a 7th-century Byzantine castle.

**ACCOMMODATION:**
Limassol – St Raphael, and superior deluxe Four Seasons. Paphos – Queens Bay Hotel, and Coral Beach Resort. All hotels offer superb facilities and service.

DEPARTURES AND PRICES PER PERSON

| Paphos or Limassol | Feb 4 & 11 | Feb 14, 15 & 16 | Feb 25 & 28, Mar 4, 7, 11 & 14 |
|---|---|---|---|
| St Raphael | £299 | £329 | £349 |
| Queens Bay | £299 | £329 | £349 |
| Coral Beach | £398 | £428 | £448 |
| Four Seasons | £448 | £478 | £498 |

*Manchester Sat & Wed
*Gatwick Wed
*Heathrow Mon – Paphos only
*Heathrow every date – Larnaca only

Prices are based on two people sharing a twin room. Offer excludes travel insurance. This holiday is operated by Goldenjoy Leisure plc, a company independent of Times Newspapers Limited

**PRICE INCLUDES:**
- Return scheduled flights with Cyprus Airways
- Seven nights' bed and breakfast accommodation
- Free car hire, excluding petrol and CDW of approx £6 per day
- Airport departure tax

FOR FURTHER DETAILS SEND COUPON TO: GOLDENJOY HOLIDAYS, 36 HILL LANE, LONDON NW6 1NR OR TELEPHONE 0171-794 9767

ABTA V2734 ATOL 2544

THE TIMES CYPRUS OFFER

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

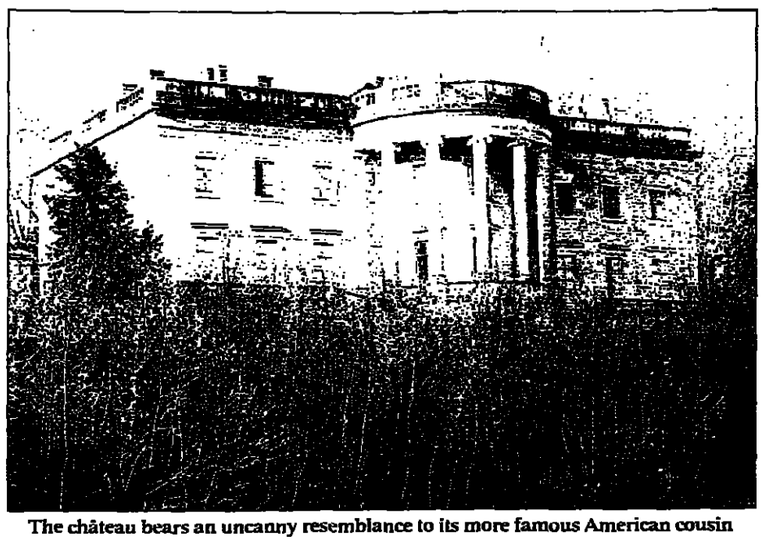
..... POST CODE .....

You may be sent further information on offers and services which may be of interest to you. If you do not wish to participate please tick box.

FOR FURTHER DETAILS CALL GOLDENJOY HOLIDAYS ON 0171-794 9767 (24-hours)

CHANGING TIMES

Bill Clinton would do a double take if he saw Château de Rastignac in the Dordogne, says **Susan Bell**



The château bears an uncanny resemblance to its more famous American cousin

ALASTAIR MILLER



David Martyn outside Château de Rastignac near La Bachellerie in the Dordogne. It has lain empty since 1944 when it was torched by the Nazis

# White house, white elephant

**HOUSE** OF THE **WEEK**

If beleaguered Bill Clinton's alleged sexual shenanigans result in a humiliatingly hasty departure from the world's most famous address, he can perhaps find comfort in the thought of taking refuge in another White House tucked away in the heart of *la France profonde* — and one believed by many to be the inspiration for 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue.

If he should ever decide to make the move, he will find his new surroundings rather draughtier and considerably less comfortable than those to which he has become accustomed. For the Château de Rastignac, perched on a lonely hilltop in the Dordogne, near the small village of La Bachellerie, has lain abandoned for more than 50 years.

In 1944, the Germans pillaged the château, stealing a cache of priceless Impressionist paintings hidden there by a Jewish art collector. The SS lined the then owners, the Scottish Fairweather family, against the wall for execution before eventually sparing them. The servants were not so lucky. Nor did the château escape — the Nazis torched it, leaving an empty shell.

Driving along the winding road from Périgueux, 40 kilometres to the west, through frost-whitened fields and past calm waterways from which pale mist rises in clouds, the first glimpse of the Château de Rastignac, glittering in the winter sunshine, is an oddly disturbing sight, as if one of the most famous buildings in the world had been spirited to this remote spot in the middle of nowhere.

Approaching the château along an avenue lined with poplars, one arrives in what must once have been the courtyard, now overgrown. On one side is the château, its stone a pale gold, on the other is the old orangerie, its glass roof long gone and the interior a wilderness. The elegance of the Palladian château remains although, inside, pools of water and the detritus of passing squatters testify to years of neglect, despite the new roof and windows provided by a government subsidy.

Despite the decay, the resemblance to the White House is unmistakable. There is the famous semi-circular six-columned portico with the two-storey bay behind and the balustraded roofline. So which came first, Rastignac or the White House? The controversial question has fired debate among architectural historians for decades.

Work on Rastignac began after the French Revolution in 1789 and ended in 1815; while James Hoban, the Irish architect of the White House, drew up his plans in 1792. One theory is that Mathurin Blanchard, Rastignac's designer, saw Hoban's drawings, another that Hoban drew his inspiration from the château. A third, more popular, theory is that both men were inspired by the 18th-century Parisian architect Louis-Charles Clérisseau, a friend of Thomas Jefferson.

David Martyn, a British architect and friend of the current owner, Didier Legrez, says historical records prove that the White House predates Rastignac by 20 years. "But it's also true that the White House's colonnade was added after Rastignac was built, so one might say that Rastignac is the purer of the two."

For the locals, however, many of whom played in the abandoned château when they were children, there is no doubt which came first. "For us it is the original," says Béatrice Belingard, who runs the local *tabac* and whose wedding photographs were taken on the Rastignac steps.

But for M Legrez, for whom this White House could more accurately be described as a white elephant, the past is not as pressing as the château's present and uncertain future. Over the years there have been extravagant plans to turn Rastignac into everything from a golf hotel to a museum of cinema or a Franco-American cultural centre. All have fallen through.

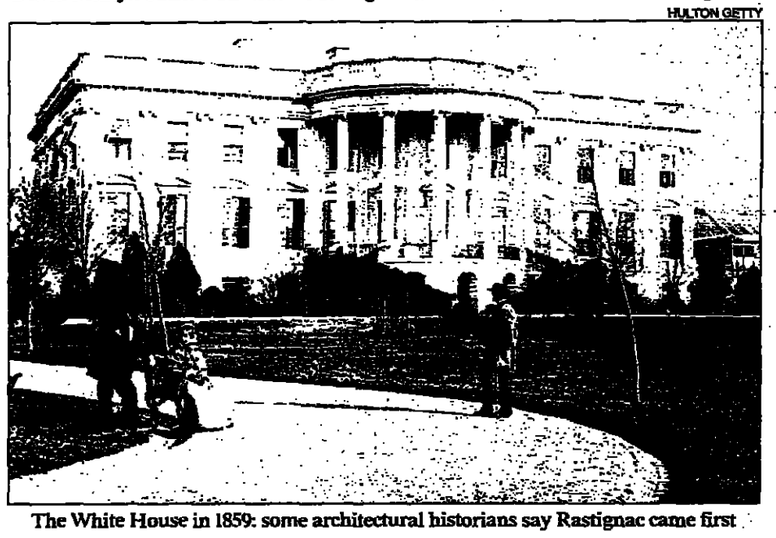
Mr Martyn, a dapper, jovial man, and the proud owner of 260 bow ties (today's is mauve silk), explained why. "It's difficult to get to, too big for a home, too small for a hotel and would cost a fortune to renovate. We have had over 100 seriously interested investors but most back out when they learn that the cost of making the château even vaguely presentable would be more than £3 million."

But the locals still dream that their white elephant will bring them fame and fortune. "I would like Rastignac to become a good hotel to bring in tourists who will spend money in the village," sighs Mme Belingard.

M Legrez, a self-confessed Anglophile, nurses the hope that his château will be bought by an English gentleman who will restore it to its former glory. "You still know how to be gentlemen in Britain," he says wistfully. "Here in France they don't exist anymore."

● *The Château de Rastignac and its 100 hectares of grounds are being sold by Le Lardin Immobilier, 24120 Le Lardin Saint-Lazare (00 33 5 53 51 21 15). Offers over Fr4 million (about £410,000).*

HULTON GETTY



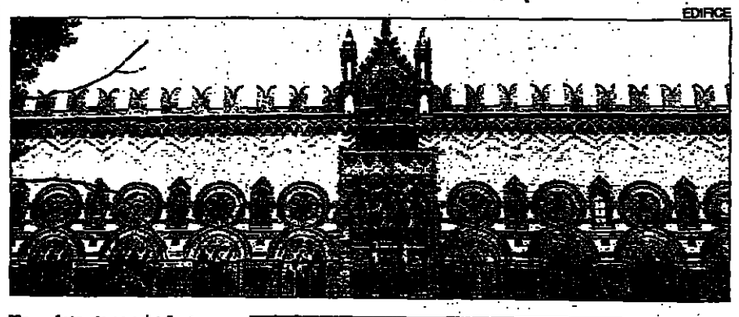
The White House in 1859: some architectural historians say Rastignac came first



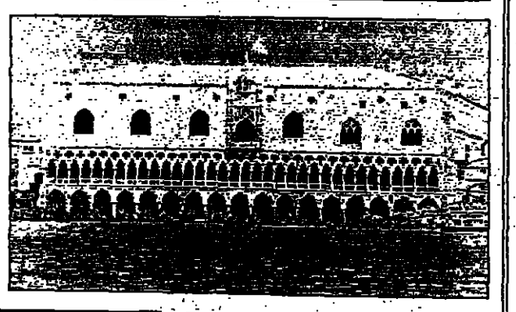
Inside the château, neglect has not dimmed its elegance

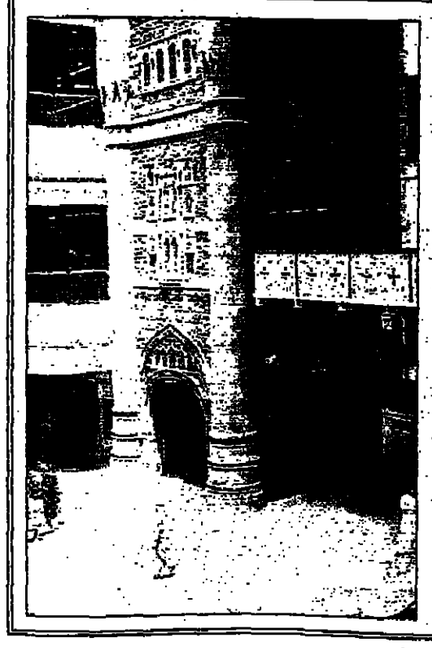
## HAVEN'T I SEEN THAT **SOMEWHERE BEFORE?**

EDIFICE



**Templeton's carpet factory** (above) was designed by the architect William Leiper as a replica of the **Doge's Palace** (right) in Venice, *Portia Colwell writes*. The factory building, in crimson brick, was built in 1884 and is next to Templeton Green, a mile from the centre of Glasgow. In 1984, it was converted into a business centre by the architects Charles Robertson Partnership.





**Tower Bridge** (below) has been recreated in the atrium of **Lamcy Plaza** shopping mall (left), near the World Trade Centre in Dubai. The mall bridge took a year to build and a team of architects visited England four times to study the original. The top floor is a coffee shop and the towers have been made into lifts. Completed last March, it is set against a glass wall with desert views.

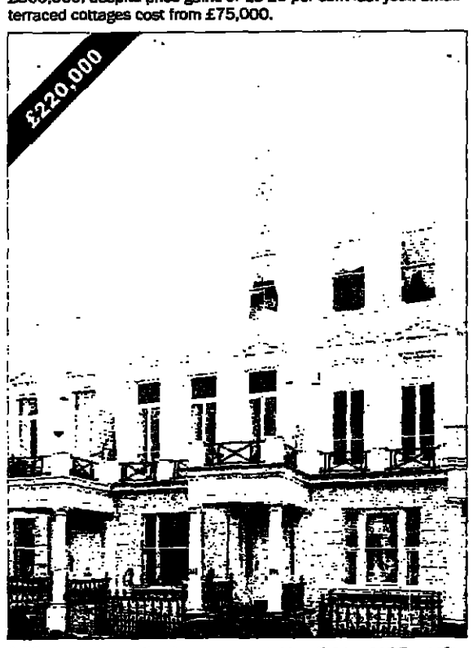


## **HOME** SWAP

PROPERTY prices in Kensington, west London, have nearly doubled in the past five years, and are still moving up, with increases of 20 *per cent in the past year, according to Savills. You might find a* small unmodernised mews cottage on the border with Notting Hill Gate for £400,000, but most homes cost a great deal more. £1.5m *is average price for a five-bedroom family house.*

The riverside towns and villages around Henley-on-Thames, including Wargrave and Hambleden, have long been fashionable *with wealthy London and foreign buyers looking for family homes.* A terraced cottage can be found for £200,000, but most homes cost a great deal more. About £400,000 buys a detached four-*bedroom Victorian house; a six-bedroom country house starts at* £700,000, following price rises of 14 per cent last year.

The area around Tenterden, with its timber-framed 16th-century houses on the Kent/East Sussex Border, just over an hour from Headcorn to Charing Cross by fast train, has some of the best value property in the South East. A detached three to four-bedroom period house with up to three acres can still be found from £200,000 to £300,000, despite price gains of 15-20 per cent last year. Small terraced cottages cost from £75,000.




A 79-year lease on this two-bedroom flat on the second floor of a Victorian terraced house in Lexham Gardens, in London W8, Kensington, is for sale at £220,000 (John D. Wood, 0171-727 0705).



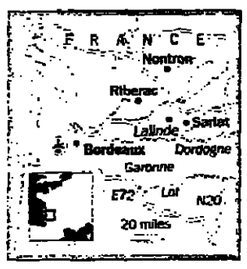

In Oxfordshire, this three-storey four-bedroom Grade II listed town house in the heart of Watlington, 12 miles from Henley-on-Thames, 14 miles from Oxford, can be yours for £235,000 (Savills, 01491 843001).




For even less (£215,000), you can buy Cherry Garden Farm, a charming Grade II listed three-bedroom timber-framed Kentish farmhouse in a half-acre cottage garden, at Rolvenden, near Cranbrook, Kent (Phillips & Stubbs, 01797 253323).

CHERYL TAYLOR

## **MARKET** COMMENT




IN THE early 1990s the Dordogne found itself out of favour with UK buyers. It was perceived as overcrowded, overpriced and over-British, and Francophile eyes turned *to other parts of southwest* France such as the Lot, Garonne and Tarn valleys. But demand has evened out across the region. It was stimulated through 1997 both by the strength of sterling — which peaked at Fr10 to £1 in July, and is now steady around Fr9.70 — and by the rise in house prices. Frank Rutherford of UK-based estate agent Rutherfords says that the Dordogne can be divided into three segments. The southern part, around the river itself, has a certain cachet on the back of its spectacular landscape and distinctive architecture; small market towns such as Le Buisson and Lalinde offer good amenities and are sought-after centres. This is now the most popular area with the current wave of relatively sophisticated (or at least prosperous) British buyers. It is also the most touristy and the priciest part of the Dordogne, with modest holiday homes from around £75,000, and £150,000 to £200,000 for a good converted farmhouse with pool, barn, views and an acre of land (there is little likelihood of finding unrenovated property).

When the south first became crowded and costly, buyers headed further west to the less eyecatching countryside around Ribérac, to find affordability and space (albeit at the expense of snob appeal). Prices may be 30-40 per cent down on the southern heartland. To the north, around Nontron, the countryside becomes more remote, unpopulated and rustic, and those searching for a £30,000 farmhouse are more likely to strike lucky here.

Moving upmarket, there is no shortage of châteaux and manoirs available from £300,000 upwards, although dilapidated ones may be picked up from £150,000. Alistair Williamson of estate agent GAK Williamson, in Alresford, Hampshire, cites one on the market at £500,000, fully refurbished, with five reception rooms, three bedrooms, several staff cottages and a few acres, overlooking the Dordogne river valley. The price reflects the good condition, he says. A common problem is that many châteaux now on sale were bought cheaply in the 1980s and renovated in questionable taste.

It is worth noting that individuals are liable to an annual wealth tax on fixed assets (such as houses) worth more than Fr4 million (about £410,000), regardless of whether or not they are resident in France. For this reason, larger châteaux and family estates are generally bought by forming a company — for which you need specialist advice.

FAITH GLASGOW

هكذا من الاصل



# PROPERTY

TO ADVERTISE CALL:
0171 481 1989 (TRADE)
0171 481 4000 (PRIVATE)
FAX: 0171 782 7828 0171 782 7799

## FRANCE

ALPINE RESTAURANT Well known & established. Reduced 1,200,000 Ff. 01562 886161

BUY without Commission. Prod Receive regularly, at your house, a section of real estate corresponding to your demand. Fax (33) 4 67 45 48 19, or write to: La Fontanille European 34277 Montpellier cedex 5/France www.mser.fr/pa

COTTAGES to Castles in the heart of Poitou-Charentes from £16k. For more information - call Papillon Properties. Tel/Fax 01279 771725.

FRENCH ALPS. Std properties from £30k - £500k. Brochure. Beaches Int. 01562 886161

MANOR nr Lisle Sorgue Perle, Disney land 35k, nr Aix-en-Provence, to manor 11 rms 400m2, pool. 800m2) £2250,000. 0033 164067181.

NR Perle 30k, der bng by river in July 1,000m2 gdn, 12' by main Baths, blt 1967, 3 bdrms, lge space, mod conv, for dble gge. Ideal second home & Disney. 0181 568 2994.

NW FRANCE Country cottage with wood, 4,000sq metres of land. 400,000 Ff. 0033 685252146

VILLEFRANCHE/MER Lge 2 pn, 2 bch apt. May view of Cap Ferrat. Gge. £175pw. 0181 948 0098.

## GIBRALTAR

LUXURY PENTHOUSE 2 bed, plus loft, superbly fitted, town centr. £175,000. 0171 730 4671.

## IRELAND

KERRY- Schoolhouse, cottage, new townhouse, Old Stone Hse, Restaurant, +0353 021 7772332

## ITALY

MONTECATINI Inc 2 bed flat, balc, pvt spa, 24hrs. Flexible. £75,000. 0171 5888777.

LIGURIA/TUSCANY BORDER. Delightfully restored 17th Century farmhouse. Furnished, sips 6, extensive terraces, pool. Rent from 4 mths. £899 pcm. Poly mths. 0870 6060073 (Fax 24hr).

## PORTUGAL

ALGARVE Golf properties, Quinta do Lago, Vale do Lobo, Vila Sol, Carvoeiro Golfe, plus properties from Almancil to Lagos, new & resale. Prime Property International 01628 776841

ALGARVE ALBUFEIRA MARINA. Large 2 bed apt adj Club Med Balaia. Fantastic secured view. 1971. Value Carvo £60K, will accept £52K for quick sale. Fax 0161 980 8079.

## SPAIN

COSTA BLANCA - Seafront Award winning small Hotel with Pool, Tennis - private gardens - Part Ownership - In Profit. For Sale: £570,000. Fax +34 6 575 7861 Tel +34 6 575 7960

**DOMINION BEACH**

Award winning resort between Puerto Banus & Estepona. New luxury town houses and apartments.

**£70,000 to £135,000.**

Direct from developer
Call UK Sales on
Tel:01992 561301
Fax:01992 573407

## SPAIN

COSTA DEL SOL Malaga to Sotogrande for golf & seafront properties, new & resale + investments. Mojo, Marca. Overseas offices. Prime Property Int 01628 776841

COSTA - HOMEBUNCH Save pesetas/francs/lire/escudos/punts/marks/krone/kroner/drachmas/dollars/pounds sterling when buying your home/villa/apartment in Spain 07000 466378. www.hb.it

JAVEA/DENIA/ALTEA 4450-6900K. New & resale. Beach & photos. Seafront Int 01562 886161

## USA

FLORIDA HOMES Orlando and Gulf Coast. Guaranteed rental schemes. FPA 01202 884460

## LONDON RENTALS

APT WI/Bayswater 43rd, 22nd, 2 rec, lux fitted/furn. £575pw. Long let. 0171 224 9434.

ARE YOU Visiting London? Central Estates have quality flats and houses in Central London for long or short term rentals. 0171 224 2771.

BARBICAN, EC2. Selection of 1,2 bed aparts from £250pw. Daniel Watney 0171 283 4414

BARBICAN, EC2. Studio flat 4th flr FF no subs. £200pw. Stock Page Stock 0171 251 4171

BLOOMSBURY Lux lge bed new 22nd FF has conv no subs £225 pw. City Lets 0171 488 1458

CITY & Bloomsbury/WC1. Comprehensive list of 1/2 bed,furn/unfurn apts fr £260pw Rosford Salvi Corr 0171 250 1012

CITY, EL. Lux one bed FF flat sp fl lge, no subs £275pw. Stock Page Stock 0171 251 4171

CITY Lux lge bed new 1 & 2 bd FF pkg port no subs £240-£450 pw. City Lets 0171 488 1458

CLERKENWELL EC1. Selection of 1,2 bed aparts in new development from £275pw. Daniel Watney 0171 283 4414

CLERKENWELL V Lux lge bed new 2 & 3bd 22nd FF exc pkg no subs from £350pw. City Lets 0171 488 1458

DOCKLANDS Lux lge bed new 2 & 3bd 22nd FF pkg no subs fr £280 pw. City Lets 0171 488 1458

FULHAM Lovely 1 bed garden flat incl. gas log fire, conservatory dining rm, new decr, nr amenities £240pw. 0171 736 7755.

GROSVENOR SQ, mfl. Lux two bed flat to let long term at £745 pw. Parking also av. 01444 246528

HOLBORN Big 2 bed sunny flat. £275pw. 2 Glenkinel 0171 831 1685 or 0385 738714

HYDE PARK Area. Luxury serviced apartments. 3 bed/ reception, 3 bathrooms, furnished to a v high standard. Available on short or long let from £1000pw. Tel: 0171 5843521

HYDE PARK, W2. Opp. park. Canalbse Hse. Spac. 2 bed flats, porter £250pw 0171 724 9919

HYDE PARK, W2. 4 bed hse. 2 recep. 3 bath. gge. £1,650pw. 0181 441 3003/0956 435574

ISLINGTON Bed new lux lge 2 bd 2 bth FF pkg nr tube & rail £300 pw. City Lets 0171 488 1458

K and C, Wand SE16. River view, huge pane hse. 5 beds, 2 baths, lux fits, pool, plans, unfurn. £520pw. Tel: 0171 394 9194.

KENSINGTON W8 Lux newly done, 2 beds, 2 baths. CH2. £575pw. Tel: 0181 3883872

KENSINGTON SW7 luxurious, sole return, lge one bed furn flat. Nr Tube. £270pw. 0171 584 0945.

KINGS RD 5 mins. Lux lge 2 bd 2 bth pkg use of Harbour club o/l view. port £300pw. City Lets 0171 488 1458

LANCASTER GATE New lux lge 2bd 2bth FF/DF nr tube & rail £525 pw. City Lets 0171 488 1458

MAIDA VALE Pleasant decor height 2 dbl bd 2 bth 5/f flat recep bls w/mdd gdn balcony £280 pw 07050 616 197.

MAIDA VALE Bsd new lux lge 2 & 2bd FF exc pkg port fr £260 pw. City Lets 0171 488 1458

MAYFAIR V lux lge bsd new 22nd 23rd FF nr tube. £650pw. City Lets 0171 488 1458

NOTTING HILL GATE PL. Lge 3 bed 2 recep hse new decor, £475pw. 0181 749 3406

PONT ST SW1. Beaut 2 bed 2 bath Grnd/Lwr Perio. Antique furn. £700 pw Inc. mod. 0171 925 0171 603 7579 fax 371 0548

REGENTS PK Very quiet residential 2 bd gdn flat upon hmngo. 1/4 ck kit bath gge gch porter £300pw 07050 616197.

SO40 Brand new 2 bed flat. 2 baths, porter, nr tube £475pw. 0181 441 3003/0956 435574

SOUTH KEN Large light quiet flat, living rm, dbl bdrm, 1 & 2 b. £325pw. 0171 351 1511

ST JOHNS WOOD 2 bed hse. 2 recep. 2 baths. WC. £650pw. 0181 441 3003/0956 435574

SW1 Belgravia Court. Luxury unfurnished, 2 dble bedroom, quality flat. £275 pw Tel 0171 286 1611 or 07000 560641

SW5 Earls Court. Lux serviced studios. £190 pw Tel 0171 286 1611 or 07000 560641

SW1 Lux lge new 2nd 22nd FF pkg close nr tube £275-£550 pw. City Lets 0171 488 1458

SW15 Near Southfields Tube. 3 beds, split level, unfurn flat. Lge kit and recep. Newly dec. Pkg recep. Exc security. £725 pcm. £380pw. 0181 788 8422.

WIMBLEDON Centre court 3 mins, tube 1 min, comfortable 3 bed house. Garage. Available £315pw. Tel: 0181 542979

W1 In P & Block. Modern 2 beds, 2 bths. £260pw. Nye, Saunders & Co. 0171 629 8611

W14 Large 4 bed 2 bath immaculate refurbished flat. All mod cons. Nr. tube. Long term. £650pw. Tel: 01344 883232.

W1, Marylebone. Bsd new unfurn made 3 bed 2 bath, pelleted rec FAbs, £450pw. 0171 224 0959

W1 Soho. Superb luxury 2 dble bed flat furnished, 2 bath, wooden floors etc. £675 pw Tel 0171 256 1611/07000 560641

## HAMILTON BROOKS

**CITY EC4**
**TO LET**

Selection of luxury studio, 1 bed, 2 bed + 1 penthouse. Fully furnished Quiet courtyard development. some with balconies

No. 0171 638 2153

**BEDFORD AVENUE WC1**

4th floor panoramic mansion block with lift. Stunning large newly refurbished unfurnished flat in let. 2 double bedrooms, 2 bathrooms (1 en-suite), large lounge, fully fitted kitchen/breakfast room. Utility room, seperate WC.

**£925pw.**

**Tel:0171 486 2277.**

**LENNOX GARDENS**

Spacious sunny truly elegant first floor balcony flat. Newly decorated and furnished, use of gardens. One year minimum. Reception, 3 double bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, double reception, large entrance. £1,600pw.

0171 584 5656.

**PIMLICO SW1**

3 bedroom house, 2 bathrooms, fully furnished, good decor. CH, terrace, avail 1st march. £475pw.

Tel: 0171 630 8349
01297 35796.

## COUNTRY RENTALS

HAMPSHIRE Delightful det. period cottage nr Alton, 3 bedrms, OCS, new kitchen, sunny lge garden. 40 mins Waterloo. Recently refurb. £900pcm. Tel: 01932 872700.

MR TURN WALLS Essex, 16C manor hse, p/o vill hse, 7 bed, lge gdns, £1,950 pcm. 0181 3061012

THORNEY, Near Peterborough. Substantial 4/5 bedroom farmhouse recently renovated. Outbuildings, garage, stabling, 1.6 acres. King's Cross 45 mins. To Let on AST for 3 years. Region £1,000pcm. Saxtons Goss, Peterborough 01733 567231

## OVERSEAS PROPERTY

**BUYING ABROAD?**

*The Spring overseas property exhibition:*

**The Cumberland Hotel**

Marble Arch, London W1

*Friday 13th, Saturday 14th, Sunday 15th February 1998*
*Friday 1200 - 1800 Sat/Sun 1030 - 1700*

Over 50 top Agents and Developers from Spain and the Balearics, the Canaries, Gibraltar, Greece, Austria, Portugal, France, Italy, Cyprus, Malta, Florida and the Caribbean will be displaying their properties.

THE INTERNATIONAL PROPERTY SHOW

Tel: 0171 735 8184
FREE Admission

## RETIREMENT HOMES

**Retire in comfort and style**

Over 45 awards for excellence in architecture, design & landscaping, 20 years of management experience and 24 developments of spacious houses and flats in pretty market towns & villages around England make an English Courtyard a very special place to live.

Prices from £155,000 - £295,000 - Currently in Cambridgeshire, Cheshire, Essex, Surrey, Warwickshire & West Sussex - *Soon in Hampshire & Wiltshire*

Call 0800 220 858 quoting ref NE5 or write

Visit our website - www.englishcourtyard.co.uk

Office: 6 Holland Street Kensington London W8 4LT

English Courtyard

## NEW HOMES

**Westbury**

In South Devon we have just released our new executive homes in

**Teignmouth**

Consisting of just 9 detached properties all with a sumptuous specification and generous sized plots. For information call **(01626) 351101** and ask about our launch event in Exeter on 14th February.

**5 bedroom homes from £205,000.**



A typical Westbury 5 bedroom detached home.

**Fashionable Town Houses in Clapham**

50% SOLD



THE PORTMAN
3 BEDROOMS, SEPARATE GARAGE, GAS FIRED CENTRAL HEATING, DOUBLE GLAZING, 2 BATHROOMS, FITTED KITCHEN WITH APPLIANCES, HUGE STUDY
FROM £209,950

ARISTOTLE MEWS, ARISTOTLE ROAD, CLAPHAM, SW4.
TELEPHONE 0171 627 3352
SALES OFFICE OPEN 10AM - 5PM THURSDAY - MONDAY INCLUSIVE.

SOON TO BE RELEASED
HERITAGE PARK, TOOTING, 2,3, & 4 BEDROOM HOUSES
TELEPHONE 0181 682 0561
FOR FURTHER DETAILS.

Fairview NEW HOMES Plc.

## NEW HOMES

**PRESTIGE PROPERTIES** ON THE SOUTH COAST

- Parkland/waterside locations
- London only 1¼ hours
- Renowned for finest build quality
- Coastal walks, beaches and marinas
- Highest specification with customer options
- A choice of large flats and houses available

PRICES RANGE £395-£875,000
TELEPHONE: 01425 474646



**BURY HOUSE, BRANKSOME PARK**
A recently completed magnificent 5 bedroom, 5 bathroom Elizabethan style house set in landscaped gardens in excess of 1 acre, within Branksome Park conservation area.
**PRICE £875,000**

## SPAIN

**FINE PROPERTIES OVERSEAS**

SPAIN & THE BALEARICS

Costa Del Sol, Marbella, Puerto Banus, Elviria, Estepona, Mijas, San Pedro Sotogrande Costa Blanca Villas with pools and stunning views in Javea, Moraira, Benissa, Benitachell, etc. Algo Villamartin - affordable golf & beach properties - three countries. Costa Brava Townhouses - Quality villas under 120km from UK by car or train. Mallorca Andratx, Benidorm/Calo D'Or, Deja, Pollensa, Puerto Pollensa, S Pessa etc. Menorca All areas, plus brand new front line villas at Puerto Addaya with pool etc.

PORTUGAL

Praia D'or, Algarve Newest golf & country club resort - right on the beach.

ALSO

Gibraltar, Bermuda - tax benefits and the Azzet Reserve of France Dominican Republic - affordable beachside villas.

Prices from £80,000 - £4million

WORLD CLASS HOMES Freefone 0800 905984
International: +44 181 558 6294 e-mail: worldclasshomes@dial.pipex.com

## NEW HOMES

*The charm of old.*
*The best of new.*
*Come and see*
*the New Heritage*
*Range.*



Prices correct at time of going to press. *Features may vary depending on house type.

The best of modern housebuilding gives you The New HERITAGE Range maximum comfort with minimal maintenance.

The best of traditional British architecture brings you a home with a style, character and charm of its own.

Now, with Redrow's acclaimed New Heritage Range, it's easy to enjoy the very best of both worlds.

Visit your nearest Redrow development and see for yourself how we've beautifully brought together everything you could want from a new home.

**The very best of New and Traditional features.***

PVCu WINDOWS THROUGHOUT
–
BUILT-IN WARDROBES
–
SPACIOUS ROOMS, HIGHER CEILINGS
–
FULLY FITTED KITCHENS
–
STAINED GLASS FEATURE WINDOWS
–
EN-SUITE PERIOD STYLE BATHROOMS
–
UTILITY ROOMS
–
HIGH INSULATION GLASS

REDROW BUILDS HOMES THROUGHOUT THE UK
FOR DETAILS CALL FREE ON
0800 66 44 22
www.redrow.co.uk

**WHERE TO FIND REDROW HOMES**

*ENGLAND*

AVON
BRISTOL: From £94,950 Tel: 0117 957 1007
BERKSHIRE
BRACKNELL: COMING SOON Tel: 01628 671841
WOKINGHAM: From £229,950 Tel: 0118 973 5833
DERBYSHIRE
BORROWASH: From £77,950 Tel: 01332 670354
HILTON: From £91,500 Tel: 01283 734807
LITTLEOVER: From £75,500 Tel: 01332 272369
MICKLEOVER: COMING SOON Tel: 01332 519591
DEVON
EXMINSTER: From £116,950 Tel: 01392 833698
EAST SUSSEX
HAILSHAM: From £61,950 Tel: 01323 845054
NR EASTBOURNE: From £87,950 Tel: 01323 766233
UCKFIELD: From £92,950 Tel: 01825 766166
ESSEX
HARLOW: From £76,500 Tel: 01279 626667
SOUTH OCKENDEN: From £111,950 Tel: 01708 854854
GLOUCESTERSHIRE
CIRENCESTER: From £149,950 Tel: 01285 656006
HAMPSHIRE
FAREHAM: From £125,500 Tel: 01329 221555
SOUTHAMPTON: From £47,750 Tel: 01703 434467
SOUTHSEA: From £76,950 Tel: 01705 294183
HERTFORDSHIRE
BISHOPS STORTFORD: From £142,950 Tel: 01279 757776
KENT
EAST MALLING: From £129,950 Tel: 01732 849099
MINSTER: From £55,950 Tel: 01795 870280
UPCHURCH: From £165,000 Tel: 01634 264433
LEICESTERSHIRE
NARBOROUGH: From £70,500 Tel: 01162 753312
SYSTON: From £100,500 Tel: 01162 697470
LONDON
DOCKLANDS: From £150,000 Tel: 0171 537 7122
DOCKLANDS: From £79,950 Tel: 0171 531 9997
NORTH SOMERSET
WESTON-SUPER-MARE: From £79,950 Tel: 01934 518095
OXFORDSHIRE
BICESTER: COMING SOON Tel: 01628 671841
STAFFORDSHIRE
TAMWORTH: From £94,500 Tel: 01827 895484
SUFFOLK
BURY ST EDMUNDS: From £59,950 Tel: 01284 753394
SURREY
WOKING: From £109,950 Tel: 01483 486669
WEST MIDLANDS
NORTHFIELD: From £78,500 Tel: 0121 411 1156
DICKENS HEATH: COMING SOON Tel: 01527 260600
WILTSHIRE
SWINDON: From £104,950 Tel: 01793 705126

*WALES*

GWENT
CHEPSTOW: From £49,950 Tel: 01291 628618
EBBW VALE: From £52,950 Tel: 01495 352660
NEWPORT: COMING SOON Tel: 01454 625000
PONTYPOOL: From £93,950 Tel: 01495 758997
MID GLAMORGAN
CAERPHILLY: From £84,950 Tel: 01222 867280
MERTHYR TYDFIL: COMING SOON Tel: 01454 625000
WEST GLAMORGAN
NEATH: From £77,950 Tel: 01639 631497
SWANSEA: From £104,950 Tel: 01792 298828
SWANSEA: From £79,950 Tel: 01792 813922

BETTER BUILT HOMES. TAKE IT AS REDROW

After seven years' reporting from the rural front line, **Paul Heiney** devotes his last dispatch to a countryside torn with strife

# When two tribes go to war

Very soon now, we shall all be getting our instructions on where to go for gas-masks and what the warning signal will be to put them on. We are not yet at the stage of digging trenches or resurrecting granny's Anderson shelter, but the countryside is so torn with strife that, as I write, battle lines are being drawn up. The battle is real.

We have on one side the aggrieved livestock farmers whose animals are worth roughly half what they would have fetched this time last year. They are deeply suspicious (and in my estimation rightly so) that the Government no longer sees farmers as worthy of support outside the Europe-dictated subsidy they receive. On the docksides of north Wales, the farmers are openly at war, kept in order with CS gas and batons. Anger is spreading through country people like ticks through sheep: wherever you look a skirmish is to be found.

It is fitting that your letters are a perfect reflection of the mistrust and misunderstanding which is making the countryside a chippy place to live.

Take Mrs Furlong, who lives near Elmsett in Suffolk. She encloses a picture of her country cottage surrounded by a sea of flowering oilseed rape. It looks like a tiny white dinghy cast adrift in an ocean of mustard. She writes: "This year it will be growing within a few feet of the village school and it is an accepted fact that some children suffer respiratory problems, headaches and drowsiness due to allergic reaction to the flowers. I once read that farmers do not grow rape within a five-mile radius of Newmarket because of its adverse effect on the racehorses. It seems strange that horses should be protected while children are given no such consideration."

More mistrust of modern agriculture: Nicholas Ball, of Loughborough, Leicestershire, having observed cows for what he describes as "the whole of my 51 years", writes: "Every cow I have met has been suffering from diarrhoea. I have challenged my nephew, a young vet, to find a cure but he is of the opinion that farmers would find solid waste more difficult to handle, and it would not win him any friends."

Now, I do not know whether cows are really suffering from this affliction, or whether their workings were designed to deal with things in this unusually liquid way. But is it not interesting that agriculture is now so widely despised that a sensible man can easily believe that an animal might be maintained in a state of illness to make life more productive and profitablefor the farmer? Before you scoff, think of intensive pigs or chickens and the amount of medication they are routinely fed. You don't give medicine to healthy beings, do you?

**DOWN TO EARTH**



Perhaps Mr Ball has a point. Who knows? Unless you trust the farmers, you have to keep on asking these questions.

The risk is that the anger can lead to our being manipulated. The other abiding theme of your letters is ownership of the countryside itself. Interestingly, few country people offer opinions on city problems, but the reverse is far from true. Everyone has an image of what they want from the countryside and how they are going to set about achieving it. But how do we ever achieve a handshake between Patricia Anderson, of Holt, Norfolk, and Ms A. Knittel, of Worcester? Mrs Anderson writes: "My grandson's two pet rabbits were eaten by a fox. All that remained was one ear and a bit of fluff."

On the other hand, Ms Knittel says that I, having questioned what might happen if foxhunting is banned, "... have fallen into the trap of believing foxes are a pest". She quotes a report from Bristol University, which says "foxes do not warrant their reputation as major pests... Agricultural intensification is by far the major factor in the decline of most wildlife".

Which brings us back to the mistrust of farmers. But Mrs Anderson then tells me the warden of her local bird reserve goes out early to shoot foxes. He says: "You can have a bird reserve or a fox reserve. You can't have both."

These are already sufficiently complex issues without them being muddied by third-hand thinkers who feel they have a moral position, but have no direct experience. Is it not time someone was brave enough to look a city-dwelling hunt protester in the face and say "What the hell has it got to do with you?" If that is what the Countryside Rally is really all about, good luck to it.

I leave it to N.R. Cowling, of Newton Abbot, Devon, to draw a broad conclusion from this and other rural arguments when he suggests: "The RSPCA wants an increased use of shooting to kill foxes. It would only be a matter of time before one of their 'marksmen' shot a 'right to roam' rambler."

This is the point at which I raise the white flag and surrender before the crossfire gets me. This is the last column I shall write here. In every rural community there is always one whose voice you tire of hearing. Before that happens, I have decided to bow out. But that does not mean I shall not be there. I shall still be leaning over the farmyard gate, watching you all, but saying nowt.

Readers' letters are welcome on countryside matters, of all kinds. Address them to: Country Life, Weekend, The Times, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN. They are published on the first Saturday of the month.

# Little con trick that will clear the dinner table

**FEATHER** REPORT

CAN BIRDS play Machiavellian tricks on their rivals? An interesting note in the current issue of *British Birds* magazine suggests that they can. A birdwatcher in West Didsbury, Manchester, reports that he was watching a great tit feeding alone on a bird-table when a flock of greenfinches arrived and took over. The great tit flew into some bushes and came back only when the greenfinches had gone. Then the same thing happened again. But when the greenfinches returned for a third time, the tit instead sounded the alarm call normally given upon a hawk sighting, and went into "a frozen, crouched position".

The greenfinches apparently recognised the call and the posture, and they fled, after which the tit resumed feeding undisturbed.

Was it a deliberate deception? One has to be cautious about such conclusions. Perhaps the tit was genuinely alarmed by something for a moment, then immediately realised it was mistaken, while the greenfinches reacted over-hastily. However, when the greenfinches returned once more, the tit gave the alarm call again, and again they flew off. It certainly looks as if it had learnt a trick by the time it made the second alarm call.



PETER BROWN

A great tit sounds the alarm — and the finches scatter

Two zoologists, Richard Byrne and Andy Whiten, have published a book called *Machiavellian Intelligence*, in which they have collected examples of young monkeys and baboons playing such tricks on each other — simulating fear and so provoking it in their companions, then seizing a morsel of food that has been abandoned in panic. But there are not many examples of such behaviour in birds.

The best-documented example was observed in the Amazonian forests a few years ago, where two species of flycatchers seem to habitually exploit other birds feeding in the forest canopy. They, too, make the alarm call heard when a bird-eating hawk passes. Other birds, which have just flushed insects out from the leaves, will dive for cover, while the ingenious flycatcher comes out of cover and snaps up the insects.

A more dastardly trick was recently reported in Toronto, where seagulls allegedly drive small migrating birds into lighted skyscrapers at night, then kill and eat them when they fall to the ground, stunned. It has been said that the seagulls used just to feed on the birds that hit the skyscrapers by mistake, but then learnt that they could force them to their death.

Here, however, I think one must really be sceptical. The small birds, migrating at night, are already attracted to the skyscraper lights, and it would not be abnormal for the gulls simply to chase them in the air. In those circumstances, one can easily imagine that many of them might hit the skyscraper accidentally as they tried to flee — but would seem like deliberate victims of the gulls.

Bird intelligence is still little understood. The editors of *British Birds* say that there is some evidence of house sparrows and blackbirds playing the tit's trick on larger birds.

The next two months should see birdtables at their busiest, and readers might like to look out for little Machiavellis in their own garden.

DERWENT MAY

● **What's about:** *Birders — Listen for the first blackbird song in gardens, parks and woodland. Twitchers — spotless starling, St Mary's, Isles of Scilly; lesser white-fronted goose, Slimbridge, Glos; black-bellied dipper, Scalby, Yorks. Details from Birdline 0891 700223. Calls cost 50p a minute.*

AMANDA LOCKYER



*Rob Palmer with two members of his buffalo herd, whose milk, with its high butterfat content, sells for about 65p a litre, compared with about 20p a litre for your normal pinta*

# Where the buffalo roam

More often found in Italy, a herd of buffalo has adapted nicely to Shakespeare country. And their delectable dairy produce, otherwise known as liquid gold, is turning healthy profits, reports **Rebecca Austin**

Most farmers hope to weather the hard times by lying low and reducing their overheads, but the adventurous few are striking out into unusual new enterprises.

You find one such imaginative venture when you cross the cattle grid on to Upper Nineveh Farm just east of Shipston-on-Stour, Warwickshire, and find yourself face to face with Rob and Nicola Palmer's 160 water buffalo. Calmly indifferent to the move into Shakespeare country after being transported from their native Italy and Romania — where they were more used to a ploughing harness — they stare right back at visitors.

Mr Palmer's bank statements explain why he has spent seven years importing a species domesticated 4,000 years ago into an agriculturally advanced country, and three years doing market research — the payoff is in the milking parlour. These beasts produce "liquid gold". Mr Palmer can sell their milk for more than 65p a litre, compared with about 20p a litre for your normal pinta.

The milk is processed into mozzarella, yoghurt and hard cheese. Demand for these products is so strong that 14 dairy farmers have just set up a producer group in the southwest. And Mr Palmer, currently milking 62 head, is aiming for 150 by the spring.

The butterfat content of buffalo milk is double that of cow's milk, meaning that half the volume is required to make the same amount of processed product. And like the meat, buffalo milk is 40 per cent lower in cholesterol than cow, sheep and even goat milk.

Unlike so many "healthy" foods, buffalo yoghurt retains a richness of taste on the palate. "We sold the odd pot of yoghurt to a local butcher who I met one Christmas the worse for wear. I told him to try some of the yoghurt because it would cure his hangover and he scoffed at the idea," Mr Palmer says. "However, he was feeling so rough he gave it a go and couldn't believe how creamy it was. He admitted it was one of the most wonderful things he had ever eaten. He now places orders as regular as clockwork."

Beef sales are also excellent, says Mr Palmer, partly as a result of the recent scares. Local pubs report a massive demand for buffalo burgers and sausages, while steaks are selling well through Barrow Boar, an exotic meat outlet near Yeovil in Somerset.

Currently, 62 buffalo produce almost 4,000 litres (6,976 pints) of milk a week. Of that, a significant proportion is sent up to London, where Carnevale, an Italian dairy company, turns it into mozzarella. There is no doubt it would take more, but Mr Palmer prefers to spread his risks, and the rest of the milk goes to Battledene Farms in Chipping Campden for yoghurt-making, and to Malvern Cheesewrights.

Buffalo milk products are already earning plaudits. Last summer, Mr Palmer's yoghurt took the Nantwich International Cheese Show — one of the world's biggest dairy shows — by storm. It scooped the Sainsbury's trophy for best new dairy product, and the Nantwich Agricultural Society's award for best new dairy product on the British market.

But it has not all been plain sailing for the Palmers. The first morning's milking was a nightmare: it took four hours to persuade 12 buffalo to release a meagre two litres between them. At that point the Palmers were spending four and a half hours, two evenings a week, making their own mozzarella. It was taken up to Neal's Yard Dairy in Covent Garden the following morning and sold out by lunchtime.

It was obvious they were on to a winner, but they would need a bigger herd. Italian and British officials made life difficult for them when, seven years earlier, they imported their foundation stock, at £2,500 a head, from the province of Latina, 40 miles south of Rome. Now they buy instead from Romania, where about 150,000 buffalo are kept on small family farms for milking, draught work and eventually meat.

Mr Palmer travels to Romania and inspects animals brought to a central location. A tap on the rump with his stick seals a mute deal and each buffalo changes hands for about £1,200, including transport costs.

The buffalo adjust comfortably to a different culture once they arrive at Upper Nineveh Farm. "To look after they are quite similar to dairy cows," says Mr Palmer, who used to milk Jerseys, "except that their whole pace of life occurs at half that of a cow — until they become excited. You have to remember they are a different species and have to get used to their idiosyncrasies."

Although they are gentle with people, they are not so accommodating with each other. They also have an elephantine disrespect for property. If they can't go around something, they just bulldoze through it. As a result, all Mr Palmer's grazing is surrounded by mains-fed electric fencing.

Buffalo would not suit the tidy farmer. It is common to see them thrashing water out of a trough to create holes for wallowing — whether in field or shed. And the electricity board is a regular visitor to Mr Palmer's farm: buffalo enjoy rubbing their horns on the electricity poles, which end up looking as though they have been visited by a party of beavers.

"But they are a great ecological tool because they lend themselves toward sustainable farming. And there is a growing awareness that not all is right with the conventional farming system which milks exceptionally high-yielding cows for about two years and then has to cull them because they are worn out," Mr Palmer says.

"The buffalo has not been bred to do this, so there is an opportunity to make people happier with what they are buying."

NEWS TEAM

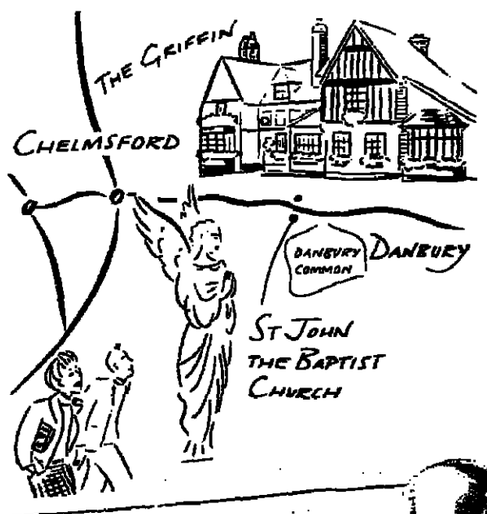


**Bill Bond of Battledene Farms with a batch of the local ambrosia — buffalo yoghurt**

**ON THE SPOT:** ESSEX

JANE SPENCER

*Rural recommendations*




**The place:** St John the Baptist Church, Danbury.
**The view:** the field behind the church leads down to Danbury Common and white painted houses lie half-hidden in the dip. Opening out before you to the south is an extensive view of the low-lying Essex countryside.
**Aficionados:** ramblers and churchgoers.
**Historical interest:** Danbury stands 365ft above sea level and is the highest point in Essex. The remains of an Iron Age hillfort surrounding the 14th-century church are visible and excavations have uncovered clay and pottery from Saxon times. In the churchyard, an ornate angel marks the grave of a Chelmsford School headmaster's wife who died in 1902.
**How to get there:** take the footpath on the left of church and walk about 50 yards.
**OS Ref:** 779/052 on sheet 167.
**Best time to visit:** early afternoon — when you can combine it with a pub lunch.
**Also nearby:** opposite is The Griffin, a 16th-century pub, where Sir Walter Scott completed his romantic novel, *Queenhoo Hall*. The ships' timbers surrounding the fireplace are believed to have been discarded from the church by Henry VIII. Danbury Country Park covers 40 acres.

DEBORAH KING

## A VET WRITES

**Q I want to mate my three-year-old Jack Russell bitch, Jumble, so that I can keep one of her puppies, but I can't find a suitable dog. She's due in season any time now so it's quite urgent. What's the right time to mate her and how long will she carry?**

A Punch's advice to those about to marry was "Don't", and the same applies to dog-breeding. There's a surplus of puppies already — ask any of the rescue societies — and here you are, prepared to offer a home to one. What about the rest of Jumble's litter? Another three or more? Where will they go? If you're sure you can find lifetime homes for all of them, go ahead. You might find Jumble's intended at a dog show or in the pages of the dog press (*Dog World* and *Our Dogs*). You could also phone dog



Jumble: needs a boyfriend

breeders in the Yellow Pages, or your vet may be a useful dating agency.

Life would be much easier if an experienced dog breeder (and experienced stud dog) were involved. A maiden bitch and a totally inexperienced dog may not manage a successful union — even at the right time (between the eleventh and fourteenth day of season). A better guide still is to mate two days after the bitch has stopped bleeding, and again two days later. If she conceives on the first mating she's unlikely to accept the dog the second time around.

The average gestation is 63 days, but between 59 and 65 days is within normal limits. Good luck.

**Q Our 12-year-old terrier is going blind. His eyes have a milky white look and he can only see things 18 inches away. In every other way he's fit and well. Is there anything that can be done for him? Would an operation help or would the distress it would cause be greater than the good it would do?**

A Your dog may have cataracts, which would cause a milky white appearance in his pupils — the black spot in the centre of the eye; or he may have keratitis, an infection on the surface of the eyeball. See your vet to find out exactly what's wrong. An infection might need antibiotic drops or ointment. Cataracts can be removed by surgery. Dogs don't rely on sight in the same way as we do. They're not interested in reading newspapers or signposts and use their noses to find the Ladies or Gents. If there's no pain and your terrier is coping happily with a blurred world, it might be better to leave well alone.

Take your vet's advice. An operation would cause very little stress but you're right to ask if it's worth it from your dog's viewpoint.

JAMES ALLCOCK

● *Write to The Times Vet, Weekend, The Times, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN. Advice is offered without legal responsibility.*

# It's time to say auf Wiedersehen, pet

## The death of a much-loved pet is at last being taken seriously, with companies offering cremations and burials. **Jo Carlowe** reports

Sometimes the hardest decisions are the kindest, says the greetings card in the rack under the heading "Pet Euthanasia". It is a colourful effort, fittingly illustrated with an empty collar and a bare basket.

This is America, where the death of a pet means big emotion and big bucks. Scoff not, however. We in Britain are snapping at their heels. Our condolence cards may be more subtle (line drawings of animals with passages from Kipling's *The Power of the Dog*), and the burials we give our pets have yet to include funeral dress and piped music, but in all other respects we are just as eager to give our animals a send-off to that great kennel in the sky.

Perhaps it is an example of a more compassionate society or maybe clever business people have simply exploited a gap in the market. Either way, to lose a pet in the 1990s is to lose a member of the family and that means mourning its passing with all the trappings.

The industry has grown beyond recognition over the last decade. When Nikki Easby, pet administrator of the Pet Memorial Company, lost her labrador Tally ten years earlier, no one made headstones for pet graves.

The Pet Memorial Company, based in Hull, is a subsidiary of Odlings, a 125-year-old firm of stonemasons, which started making headstones for pets in 1995. It now receives about 50 orders a week. Its most recent creation says: "Buntin 1987-1997. Our hearts and home are empty without you", in memory of a Yorkshire terrier. Owners pay from £60 to £200 for the stone alone.

Other companies have also started diversifying into the pet death business. There are makers of memorial clocks, picture frames and caskets for ashes; and coffin makers manufacturing specially fitted, six-sided lined coffins for animals.

Only recently, Nick Ricketts, the director of Paws to Rest Pet Bereavement Service, in Carlisle, Cumbria, took an order for a luxury dog coffin from a member of the House of Lords. Mr Ricketts, who is also chairman of the self-regulatory Association of Private Pet Cemeteries and Crematoria, says: "You have to have regulation otherwise you end up with someone setting up a cemetery, making no money, and turning it into a caravan park. When Mr and Mrs Jones come back to visit they would be very upset to see a 22ft caravan on their pet's grave."

Mr Ricketts offers a complete service — cremation, burial, memorials and prayers. "The first time someone wanted prayers I went to fetch the vicar in the village but he had died three months earlier. I ended up saying a few words myself," Mr Ricketts says. He is now prepared for every eventuality and uses *A prayer on the death or loss of a pet*, specially written for such occasions.

When Paws to Rest cremates a pet, the cost of which is about £85 for a labrador, the ashes are sent back to the owner with a condolence card and spray of dried flowers. Burial is more expensive, at about £300 for a labrador-sized dog.

Half of Mr Ricketts's customers are men. "I think it often affects the men harder than the women, but we have a 'kennel of rest' where the pet is laid out. A man can go in, sob his heart out, blow his nose and come out with dignity," Mr Ricketts says. Like any experienced funeral director, Mr Ricketts is the master of euphemism.

"When Monty, our Airedale, passed away, there were four inches of snow outside. The only way I could get him to the crematorium was on a sledge. It was like taking a Viking warrior on a chariot. It was a fitting end."

Mr Ricketts claims that the service he offers is so good that a family whose daughter died of cancer approached Paws to Rest to inquire about a container for her ashes. "They knew our standards were higher than in the human trade."

While many treat the death of a pet in much the same way as the loss of a relative, some owners find their friends less than sympathetic. As a result, many owners feel embarrassed at their lack of British stiff upper lip.

It is a problem commonly expressed by callers to the Pet Loss Befriender Service — a charity offering a phone helpline to bereaved pet owners. The co-ordinator, Vicky Tod, says: "About 90 per cent of callers start by saying 'I know I am silly but . . .' They want reassurance that it is normal to grieve for a pet. It is normal. Bereavement is about the loss of a relationship."

Many callers feel guilty because they have had their pet put to sleep or because they are more upset about the death of their pet than about a relative. "There was a man who coped well with his wife's death but went to pieces when the budgie died. The budgie represented his wife's voice — it mimicked her voice and used her phrases. The man was mourning the last link with his wife," Mrs Tod says.

According to veterinary nurse Chris Noone, of the Royal Veterinary College, the bereavement process is the same whether an animal or human has died. This has been recognised on a professional level, and veterinary nurses can now study pet health counselling, which includes sessions on bereavement. Mr Noone offers counselling but when a client needs more intensive help, he refers them to a bereavement counsellor who would usually deal with human loss.

"We recognise pet bereavement as a major problem. It is not something people should be ashamed of," he says. Indeed, many vets send a condolence card to owners before posting the bill. The National Veterinary Suppliers sells about 2,000 cards a month to vets nationwide. However, unlike in America, pet condolence cards have yet to reach the high street.

"I've not heard of those," says one pet shop owner, her tone at once sympathetic but also suggesting a silent 'I wonder' as though a germ of an idea had struck. A spokesman for WH Smith, which does not sell the cards, says: "If we don't stock something it is because it is not what our customers want." Surely it can only be a matter of time.

● *For information on Pet Loss Befrienders call 0891 615285 (calls cost 50p per minute but you will be referred on to a local number). For information on the Association of Private Pet Cemeteries and Crematoria call 01252 844478.*

SYGMA



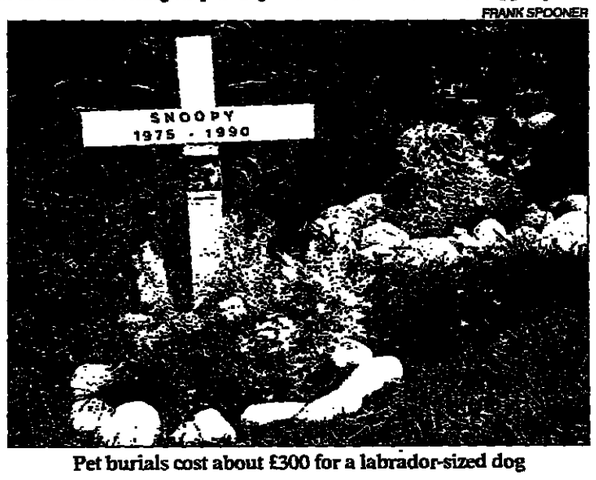
Losing a pet in the 1990s is to lose a member of the family and that means mourning its passing with all the traditional trappings

REX



Coffin-makers have produced special caskets for hamsters

FRANK SPOONER




Pet burials cost about £300 for a labrador-sized dog

# Can you give your dog the kiss of life?

AMERICA may have led the way so far in innovative pet products and treatments (remember the pet television channel and dog curlers?), but one US export has not yet caught on in Britain: mouth-to-mouth resuscitation. At the Red Cross hospital in Boston, Massachusetts, students are taught a variety of skills — from how to put broken bones in a splint to how to revive your dog by breathing into its mouth.

Greg Friedman, an associate director of Instructor Resources and Training at the Red Cross, says: "A lot of pets are considered to be family members and almost as important as a son or daughter." Mouth-to-mouth resuscitation is a highlight of the course, practised, initially, on stuffed toys (pictured right). For those who cannot stomach the thought of breathing into their dog's nose, a special mask can be used.

In Britain, the Animal Care College, Ascot, Berkshire (01344 628269) runs a correspondence course on advanced health for cats and dogs for £65 plus VAT, which includes first aid (not resuscitation, yet). The RSPCA also has booklets on first aid for domestic pets and wildlife. Send an SAE to RSPCA Inquiries, Causeway, Horsham, West Sussex RH21 1HG.

PORTIA COLWELL

AP



## ADOPT ME



SILVER (above) is a friendly two-and-a-half year old male grey and white rabbit who was brought into the Blue Cross after fighting with other rabbits belonging to his previous owner. He has since been neutered and could be rehomed with a female rabbit.

If you would like to adopt Silver, please contact Anne Rowan at the Blue Cross on 01753 882560.

DOGS

NEW DISPOSABLE PUPPY MATS

NOW, THERE'S A FRESH, NEW WAY TO TOILET TRAIN YOUR PUPPY.

Super absorbent paper mats help train your puppy and protect your floor.

New, disposable PUPPY MATS are a revolutionary way to toilet train your puppy. Made from a thin, soft yet strong, highly absorbent paper, each mat soaks up approximately 1/4 pint of liquid, leaving no puddles and no residue.

NO MORE MESSY NEWSPAPERS

PUPPY MATS are the clean and hygienic alternative to newspapers. Unlike newspaper they are totally absorbent and do not shred or disintegrate with use. In addition, a non-slip waterproof backing protects your floor.

Measuring 400mm x 595mm, PUPPY MATS are available in packs of 50 or 100.

50 mats £11.50 + £2.50 p&p 100 mats £21 + £3.75 p&p

SEND TODAY FOR YOUR NEW PUPPY MATS and say goodbye to messy toilet training

For details call now on 01405 839922 or fax 01405 839958

All major credit/debit cards welcome.

Franley Products, Franley House, 37 Riverside, Rawcliffe, Nr Goole, East Riding of Yorkshire DN14 8RN.

FRANLEY

To Advertise: TEL: 0171 680 6122

ANIMALS & ACCESSORIES

FAX: 0171 782 7799

DOGS

PETSAFE DOG COLLARS & LEADS

Telephone no. embroidered onto quality coloured webbing from £18. NO MORE LOST TAGS. FREE catalogue from Green Farm Trading: 01473 737877

BLACK STANDARD POODLES

Excellent Pedigree Champion Sire Home reared, KC Registered Both sexes. Absolutely gorgeous Innoculated and available now Tel: (Kent)01233 820980

IRISH SETTER puppies, show champion sire, KC reg. tattooed and licensed, above eye test, constant. Annette 0115 978 7406

ACCESSORIES

TURTLE DIRT TRAPPER MATS

At last - as seen at Crufts and shows nationwide - the door mat that really works! No more muddy footprints or pawmarks on clean floors and carpets! Turtle Dirt Trapper door mats stop dirt at the door of home, conservatory or car with absorbent cotton pile removing wet, dry and even greasy dirt from shoes and paws. With non-slip latex backing, they are fully machine washable at 40C. Also available with gripper-rubber backing for use on carpets - please call for details of gripper-rubber mat sizes and prices. Available in seven colours and 3 sizes: Blue, Green, Black/White, Fawn, Dark Grey, Seal Brown, Black/Brown

75cm x 50cm - £17.95 75cm x 100cm - £34.95 75cm x 150cm - £49.95

Plus £3.50 P&P per mat

from Turtle Mat CO (Dept TT 0702 — JH & CL Turtle) 92a Kings Road, Kingston, Surrey KT2 5HT

Tel: 0181 296 0366 Fax: 0181 296 0360

5 YEAR GUARANTEE

GENERAL

WORLDWIDE Pet Travel Agency Heathrow, Animals by air. Tel: 01753 685571/ Fax 681658. E-mail: Airpets@compuserve.com, OR WebStuff// WWW.Airpets.com.

RIDING HOLIDAYS

Andaluz Adventure

Costa de la Luz in S W Spain.

Holidays with superb riding in unspoilt countryside and miles of empty beaches. Fit horses, good cuisine, large pool, non-riders welcome. Open all year. For Special Christmas and New Year offers and full details from Jennie Harvey-Hall

01935 817567

FOXCROFT TRAVEL RIDING HOLIDAYS:

★ CAMARGUE
★ FRANCE
★ SPAIN
★ TURKEY
★ TUSCANY
★ IRELAND

FROM £195

Superb horseback holidays in exciting locations. Ideal for solo travellers.

TEL: 01509 613252

FOXCROFT TRAVEL 245 Rothsay Road, Sileby, Leics LE12 7PY

FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF SUPPLE JOINTS

Runaround

THE COMPLETE MOBILITY SUPPLEMENT

RUNAROUND is a rich source of the micronutrients produced by the body essential for the long term strength and stability of your dog's bones and joints. It is a natural alternative to steroids.

Dogs Today office dog Sally uses RUNAROUND. Her owner Beverley Cuddy says: "I've tried lots of remedies for Sal's stiff legs. Sal can't have most of the more conventional treatments because of her weak digestive system. Runaround has made a definite improvement to her quality of life."

RUNAROUND contains shark cartilage and green lipped mussel extract, together with Ester C and vitamin E.

Used daily RUNAROUND

- ✓ Helps to maintain the integrity of bones and joints
- ✓ Provides essential chrondroition sulphate for the maintenance of healthy connective tissues
- ✓ Provides mucopolysaccharides and glycosaminoglycans to assist in the maintenance of lubricancy – ie a moist, gliding surface
- ✓ Contains potentiated Ester C vital for collagen formation
- ✓ Contains Vitamin E for tendons and muscle cell stability

For a medium sized dog, add 6g per day to feed for five days, then 3g per day

RUNAROUND is available at dog shows, from veterinary surgeons or direct by mail order, price £14.95 for 100g tub Larger sizes available. New 300g tub for regular customers now available.

ORDER HOTLINE 01362 694957

STOCK NUTRITION, STATION ROAD, YAXHAM, NORFOLK NR19 1RD TEL 01362 694957 FAX 01362 699067

SPECIAL OFFERS ON TRANSIT CAGES

CUT OUT THIS VOUCHER FOR AN ADDITIONAL £3 SAVING ON PRICES OF SURESAFE CRATES — SEE OUR ADVERT ON PAGE 92

Offer limited to one voucher per cage ordered. Valid until 15 February 1998

هكذا من الاصل



'A calm lady on the switchboard gave it as her opinion that my man would be with me by lunchtime'

# Waiting in for an old flame

LIFE AND SOUL



JANE SHILLING

My sister and I were brought up in a very cold house. It had rotting window frames, fitted with leaded lights. Those little bits of glass and strips of lead offered no protection from the Arctic winds that blow all over east Kent, and especially over the bit where my parents chose to live. Hot water and a couple of radiators (always stone cold) were supplied by a coal boiler, know as Big Stinky, which lived in the kitchen and covered everything, including breakfast, in a gritty layer of clinker dust.

The amount of hot water produced by this furnace was tiny — a couple of lukewarm pints a day — so there was a complicated rota for the bathroom and somehow, whenever one's turn came, it always happened to be the day on which Big Stinky had gone out.

All this, which should have produced a fine, hardy pair of adult young women, somehow had the opposite effect. My sister's houses have always been covered in a single, seamless expanse of fitted carpet, and are heated to a temperature at which you could ripen guavas. I have duplicated my parents' arrangement to the extent of having a house full of sly and piercing draughts — Alexander remarked only the other morning on the bracing breeze that howls up from the gaps between our living-room floorboards. Darren the builder did his best to caulk them with hop string, but you can still see through to the exciting underworld below, full of little objects — Han Solo's blaster, my coral necklace — that have fallen down there.

But that is where the similarity with my parents ends. I see nothing character-forming in hardship or deprivation. I am not the sort of girl you would want to take with you on a journey into the interior (unless it was the interior of the Georges V). What I like is the central heating turned up high, and gallons of boiling-hot water on demand.

You can imagine, then, my sentiments on waking in the small hours to the sound of an ominous shrieking from the boiler. The radiators were frigid, the water from the hot tap icy. Outside was a fine, frosty winter's night. Oh dear. And both of us hatching nasty colds as well.

At breakfast, I tried to pretend that it was a great adventure. Well, now, I said, brewing tea in my nightie and duffel coat. Let us pretend we are polar explorers. What do you think they have for breakfast? "Ice-cream?" said Alexander hopefully. I bundled him off to school and returned to the house, where I sat watching the patterns my breath made in the indoor air, and waited for the boiler man.

I was confident that he *would* come, because I have an agreement with the gas board, whereby I pay them quantities of money annually, against just this sort of emergency, and they promise to come and sort it out, double-quick.

A calm lady on the switchboard gave it as her opinion that my man would be with me by lunchtime. So, provoking as it was to have to cancel the day's appointments, there was lots of warmish housework I could be getting on with — the piles of ironing, for a start, and I could bake some fairy cakes for Alexander's tea.

Lunchtime came and went. A leaning tower of ironing stood tottering on the table. The cakes were cooling (fast) on the racks. Dusk fell. The house grew colder. Alexander came home from school looking very groggy, with one bright red cheek and a temperature. We made a sort of tent, with chairs and coats and blankets, and we had our tea in it. Alexander and Mr Panda and the blow heater and me. "Half of me is too cold, and half is too hot," said poor Alexander.

It was nearly six o'clock. Inside me, a monstrous fury began to swell. It was an accumulation of things: the cold, greasy feeling you get from not having had a shower for 24 hours; the wasted day, with another in prospect; the feverish child — but most of all, a sense of incredulity and outrage that people who had taken all this money from me for years should not now keep their side of the bargain. I picked up the telephone.

"Coo," said Alexander, impressed. "It's much more frightening when you tell the gas people off than it is when you tell me off." I put him to bed in pyjamas and socks and a woolly jumper and a hat. I read him a cold story, and a hot story, and a story about wicked robber barons who cheat people out of their money, and then I shivered back downstairs. Past 8pm, there came a knock at the door. "Who is it?" I said. (Like my next door neighbour, Olive, I don't care for unexpected visitors after dark. Unlike her, however, I have no spy hole, so all a robber need do is announce that he is collecting for the Band of Hope, and I dare say I would let him in right away.) "It's the gas," said a hollow voice. So it was: a useful bloke in a boilersuit with an impressive tool box. He came in, fiddled inside the bowels of the boiler for a bit, and eventually produced a satisfying sort of woomph noise. Then he left, promising he would be back on Wednesday with a new fan.

I lay on the sofa, too limp with spent anger to feel very grateful. And then, resting my toes against the warming radiator, I began to wonder how a woman of a different generation might have done in similar circumstances. Someone older, gentler, less inclined to make herself disagreeable than I, and more vulnerable to the cold. My guess is that she would still have been sitting there, watching the patterns of her breath in the indoor air, and waiting for the gas man to come.

ELIZABETH STEEL

# 'It's not life-threatening, it's not even particularly painful, but it causes unbelievable suffering'



At the age of 30, Elizabeth Steel, a regional television presenter, lost 90 per cent of her hair in just a few months. No one could tell her why

Baldness is not a male preserve – women can also suffer the anguish of hair loss, says **Terri Paddock**

Elizabeth Steel was 30 when it happened — a happily married mother of two and successful regional television presenter. Her hairdresser noticed a small bald patch on the crown of her head; about the size of a ten pence coin. Within a couple of months, Ms Steel had lost 90 per cent of her hair and no one could tell her why or if she would ever see it again. "I felt my feminity had disappeared," she says. "I used to wear my wig to bed so my husband wouldn't see me in this terrible state."

As a result of her plight, Ms Steel founded Hairline International, a support group for those suffering hair loss. In the past three years, the organisation has helped 80,000 people in 20 different countries, 70 per cent of them women. Because of social conditioning, says Ms Steel, the experience of hair loss can be especially difficult for females: "A man can expect to lose hair at some stage whereas a woman just doesn't." And when she does, it can be one of the most disturbing events of her life.

A new Hairline survey of female members found that 76 per cent said they did not feel like women any more after losing their hair, 40 per cent said their marriages had suffered or even collapsed, 63 per cent said their careers were ruined and 48 per cent had considered suicide. "It's not life-threatening," says Ms Steel, "it's not even particularly painful, but it causes unbelievable suffering." The most extreme form of hair loss, *alopecia universalis*, where all the body hair disappears, is relatively rare. But GPs have a steady stream of women after pregnancy and especially during the menopause who complain of large clumps of hair coming out; this is the milder *androgenic alopecia*.

Many experts believe that an increasing number of women are being afflicted. A recent study of 800 women by Dr Hugh Rushton, consultant trichologist at the University of Portsmouth's School of Pharmacy, found that nearly a third were experiencing some degree of hair loss. One theory is that working women, who have to balance high-flying careers with maintaining homes and families, experience increased stress and male-pattern "testosterone overload". Dr Rushton, however, says the explanation could be more pragmatic — busy women are skipping meals, not eating properly and not absorbing nutrients sufficiently. As a result, they are not getting enough iron and lysine, an essential amino acid that is only available from meat. "Women are much more delicately balanced in terms of nutrition than men," he says, "so they've got to be careful and get it right."



After several years, Ms Steel's hair started to grow back

NEWS TEAM INTERNATIONAL



Ms Steel, eight years later, happy to be seen without a wig

My own experience of hair loss has been less traumatic than some, though still destabilising. About 18 months ago I noticed a thinning around my parting and temple. Some days it seemed better, other days much worse, though my husband assured me it was not noticeable. He was wrong — or lying. I shuddered one night when I leant into the bathroom mirror: my hair appeared translucent. I could see right through to my scalp. I feared I would become as bald as my father.

Hair loss is not something you can easily talk about with your friends. An advertisement in a magazine seemed to answer my prayers, offering promises of hair-growth miracles, beginning with a low-cost "tricho-check". But salvation came at a price.

While the check-up cost only £10, the 12-month course of treatment I was pressured into set me back £1,000. I was warned that I could be severely balding by the time I was 30. I wrung out a guarantee that this costly effort would work — though nothing in writing, of course — and handed over my credit card. The solution involved special trichological shampoos and conditioners, a hair stimulant that I was to massage into my scalp twice a day, plus a series of monthly one-hour treatments. Three months in, I was cornered by another staff member who said they had misdiagnosed the seriousness of my condition. I would have to increase my treatments in the hopes of kick-starting my lazy follicles. Oh, and another £1,000 please.

Ms Steel is familiar with such practices and says many desperate women have lost thousands of pounds. She advises being wary of commercial operations or ads in the Sunday supplements: "So many women think that the more they spend, the better their chances of getting their hair back. But they could end up losing their money as well as their hair."

There is no cure for baldness and that is not for lack of trying. Old wives' tales have recommended hanging upside-down, letting a cow lick your head and rubbing everything from Marmite to onions to chicken manure into your scalp. Even Cleopatra had a go at a cure-all for Julius Caesar. A mix of deer's marrow, horse's teeth and bear oil, it still left the emperor in need of his laurel leaf crown to cover his pate. Today, a rub-on shampoo called Regaine claims to have some success, and just approved in America is Propecia, although it is not yet available in Britain.

In the past week researchers said they had found the gene that causes baldness and some scientists claim they will find a cure within five years. In the meantime, Ms Steel advises that getting a referral from a GP to a dermatologist who specialises in hair, nail and skin conditions. It took her hair eight years to grow back to a state where she is happy without a wig. But for about 20 per cent of sufferers it is a lifelong problem.

● *For Hairline International, send a large SAE to: Lyons Court, 1668 High Street, Knowle, West Midlands B93 0LY.*
● *NutriHair (£29.90 for a three-month supply), a lysine and iron supplement, is available from Nature's Best which also has a free helpline (01892 552130) and a booklet,* Understanding Hair Loss.
● *Dr Rushton 0171-637 4853.*

These Hawkshead shirts have a generous cut. Buy two for only £15.



There are few things in life more comfortable than a casual check shirt; it has an easy style all of its own.

Ours are no different. You'll appreciate their generous fit, in pure cotton fabric, which has been brushed for extra softness.

They have a two-piece collar, patch chest pocket and a tailed hem which you can wear tucked in, or out, as the feeling takes you.

Other details include, tough twin-needle stitching which gives the seams extra strength, and a locker hanging loop on the back.

And at only £15 – over for two, we're sure you'll agree the cut is certainly generous.

DELIVERY

We try to despatch all orders within seven days but allow up to twenty eight days for delivery. Next Day delivery is now available throughout most of the UK for an extra £3.95 per on all telephone orders made before 12pm, Mon to Fri.

GUARANTEE

If you are not completely satisfied with your purchase simply return it to us within twenty eight days for a full refund or a replacement.

BRUSHED CHECK SHIRT
100% Cotton.
Machine washable.
Available in
A. Small Green Check.
B. Small Tan Check.
C. Large Tan Check.
D. Large Blue Check.
E. Small Blue Check.
Men's sizes S,M,L,XL
Code HW146

TWO FOR £15
TELEPHONE ORDERS
0990 434000
24 HOURS A DAY 7 DAYS A WEEK

hawkshead

Main Street, HAWKSHEAD Village, The Lake District (Tel 01539 436433) 5 Swindale Road CONISTON, The Lake District (Tel 01539 441822), King Edward Court, WINDSOR, Berkshire (Tel 01753 621 03a)

Post to: Hawkshead, Main Street, Hawkshead Village, The Lake District LA22 0SW

| PLEASE SEND ME | CODE | SIZE | COLOURS | PRICE | TOTAL |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| CHECK SHIRT | HW146 | | | £15 | |
| CHECK SHIRT | HW146 | | | £15 | |
| CHECK SHIRT | HW146 | | | £15 | |
| | | | P&P | £2.95 | |
| | | | TOTAL | | |

Card Number

Switch Only | Issue No | Valid From | Expiry Date

CS11

Reg. Office: Hawkshead Limited. Reg. No. 3277623. If you would prefer not to receive mailings from selected other companies, please tick this box

I enclose a cheque/postal order for £ _____ made payable to HAWKSHEAD. Or I wish to pay the amount shown by ACCESS/VISA/MASTERCARD/DELTA/AMERICAN EXPRESS/SWITCH

MR/MRS/MISS/MS | INITIALS | SURNAME | ADDRESS

POSTCODE | DAYTIME TEL NO | SIGNATURE

# The Music Shopper

FREE CD OR TAPE!

*Your favourite music on Tapes and CDs! Great gifts! Great values! 10 day delivery!*

## Big Bands!

**40+ Original Recordings**



***Begin The Beguine*** Artie Shaw • ***I've Heard That Song Before*** Harry James & Helen Forrest • ***I'll Never Smile Again*** Tommy Dorsey & Frank Sinatra • ***Take The 'A' Train*** Duke Ellington • ***In The Mood*** Glenn Miller • ***Blues In The Night*** Woody Herman • ***One O' Clock Jump*** Count Basie • ***On The Sunny Side Of The Street*** Tommy Dorsey • ***Ciribiribin*** Harry James • ***Let's Dance*** Benny Goodman • ***Frenesi*** Artie Shaw • ***Jersey Bounce*** Benny Goodman • ***At The Woodchopper's Ball*** Woody Herman • ***Dancing In The Dark*** Artie Shaw • ***Sentimental Journey*** Les Brown & Doris Day • ***Stardust*** Artie Shaw • ***Opus One*** Tommy Dorsey • ***Moonlight Serenade*** Glenn Miller • ***Marie*** Tommy Dorsey & Jack Leonard • ***Green Eyes/ Amapola*** Jimmy Dorsey, Bob Eberly & Helen O'Connell • ***I Can't Get Started*** Bunny Berigan...*and many more!*

Big Bands
2 Tapes 118M £14.95 ★ 2 CDs 118C £16.95

## Crazy For Gershwin

**54 Recordngs and Over 50 Artists!**




This is the Gershwin collection we've all been waiting for. The songs and the artists will escort you to a time gone by when Hollywood was in its heyday, and the music was 'S Wonderful.

***Embraceable You*** Helen O'Connell • ***Rhapsody In Blue*** Glenn Miller & Bobby Hackett • ***I'll Build A Stairway To Paradise*** Paul Whiteman • ***Funny Face*** Fred & Adele Astaire • ***How Long Has This Been Going On?*** Peggy Lee & Benny Goodman • ***Somebody Loves Me*** Bing Crosby • ***I Got Rhythm*** Adelaide Hall • ***'S Wonderful*** Billy Cotton • ***But Not For Me*** Judy Garland • ***My One And Only Whispering*** Jack Smith & Carroll Gibbons • ***Nice Work If You Can Get It*** Billie Holiday & Teddy Wilson • ***They Can't Take That Away From Me*** Denny Dennis • ***Someone To Watch Over Me*** Fats Waller • ***Liza*** Al Jolson • ***Let's Call The Whole Thing Off*** Sam Browne & Ambrose • ***Do, Do, Do/Maybe*** Gertrude Lawrence • ***The Man I Love/Oh, Lady Be Good*** Artie Shaw • ***Summertime*** Billie Holiday • ***Strike Up The Band/Do It Again*** Nat Shilkret • ***A Foggy Day*** Cyril Grantham & Geraldo • ***Fascinating Rhythm*** Cliff ("Ukelele Ike") Edwards ...*plus lots more!*

Crazy For Gershwin
2 Tapes 112M £14.95 ★ 2 CDs 112C £16.95

## Roy Orbison

**15 Dum dum dum dummy doo wha Hits**



**Elvis Presley** called him 'the greatest singer in the world' and **Paul McCartney** believes he was 'one of the greats' of our century. **Roy Orbison** won international stardom with his unforgettable hit, ***Only The Lonely***. This incredible collection brings you all of The Big O's greatest songs like ***Oh, Pretty Woman, Crying, Running Scared***...*and many more!*

***Oh, Pretty Woman • Mean Woman Blues • Candy Man • In Dreams • Blue Bayou • Pretty Paper • Only The Lonely • Running Scared • Dream Baby (How Long Must I Dream) • Blue Angel • Crying • It's Over • All I Have To Do Is Dream • I Can't Stop Loving You • Distant Drums.***

Roy Orbison
Tape 367M £12.9 ★ CD 367C £14.95

## Side By Side

**36 Vocalists! 18 Wonderful Duets!**




Music is always shared, and how better to share it than with two singers! This golden treasury of duets brings us 36 Lovebirds singing favourites like ***Happy To Make Your Acquaintance*** (Sammy Davis Jr/Carmen McRae), ***Two Sleepy People*** (Bob Hope/Shirley Ross), and ***Something Old, Something New*** (Dick Haymes/Helen Forrest).

***Fancy Meeting You Here*** Bing Crosby/Rosemary Clooney • ***Dream A Little Dream Of Me*** Louis Armstrong/Ella Fitzgerald • ***No Two People*** Danny Kaye/Jane Wyman • ***Green Eyes*** Bob Eberly/Helen O'Connell • ***If You Catch A Little Cold*** Jimmy Durante/Ethel Merman • ***The First Time Ever I Saw Your Face*** Harry Belafonte/Lena Horne • ***You Was*** Bob Crosby/Patty Andrews • ***Side By Side*** Pat/Shirley Boone...*and more!*

Lovebirds
Tape 356M £11.95 ★ CD 356C £13.95

## Dean Martin

**16 Favourite Hits!**




Enjoy Dean's unique interpretations of such wonderful golden oldies as ***Return to Me, That's Amore, Volare***, and many more!

***Return To Me • Angel Baby • Rio Bravo • I've Got My Love To Keep Me Warm • Buona Sera • That's Amore • Volare • Write To Me From Naples • Goodnight Sweetheart • Memories Are Made From This • June In January • Hey Brother Pour The Wine • Cha, Cha, Cha d'Amour • I Have But One Heart • Baby It's Cold Outside • Come Back To Sorrento.***

Dean Martin
Tape 185M £10.95 ★ CD 185C £12.95

## Johnnie Ray

**24 Big Show-biz Hits!**



A true original, this favourite of the club circuit would perform pop, gospel, R&B or even jazz with considerable aplomb. Wearing a hearing aid since the age of nine, he nevertheless became a sensational stylist with an unmistakable chart-topping sound. Here are all the big hits from the original Nabob of Sob. Enjoy it today!

***Just Walkin' In The Rain • Hey There • Cry • Such A Night • The Little White Cloud That Cried • Faith Can Move Mountains • Let's Walk That-A-Way • Paths Of Paradise • (Here I Am) Broken Hearted • Who's Sorry Now? • Somebody Stole My Gal • Hernando's Hideaway • All Of Me • You Don't Owe Me A Thing • Build Your Love (On A Strong Foundation) • Ain't Misbehavin' • I'll Never Fall In Love Again • Please Mr. Sun • Yes Tonight, Josephine • If You Believe • Look Homeward Angel • Song Of The Dreamer • As Time Goes By • Walkin' My Baby Back Home.***

Johnnie Ray
Tape 365M £12.95 ★ CD 365C £14.95

## "Only A Rose we bring you..."

**50 Songs From The 30s & 40s!**



Here is the definitive collection from the golden days of song, when songs like **Wanting You, One Kiss**, and **Rose Marie** were the magic ingredient in our lives.

***Only A Rose*** Jussi Bjorling • ***Serenade 'The Student Prince'*** Richard Crooks • ***Make Believe*** Allan Jones • ***Love's Last Word Is Spoken*** Monte Rey • ***You Are My Heart's Delight*** Richard Tauber • ***A Little Love, A Little Kiss*** Richard Crooks • ***Dream Lover*** Jeanette MacDonald • ***When I Grow Too Old To Dream*** Nelson Eddy • ***Ciribiribin*** Grace Moore • ***Sweethearts*** Webster Booth • ***Indian Love Call*** Nelson Eddy & Jeanette MacDonald...*and many more!*

Only A Rose
2 Tapes 176M £16.95 ★ 2 CDs 176C £19.95

## Cole Porter & Friends

**Over 50 Original Hits!**



***Night and Day*** Fred Astaire/Frank Sinatra • ***Begin The Beguine*** Artie Shaw/Larry Adler • ***You're The Top*** Ethel Merman/Johnny Green Orchestra • ***Just One Of Those Things*** Sam Browne/Ambrose Orchestra • ***I Concentrate On You*** Anita Boyer/Tommy Dorsey Orchestra • ***Let's Fly Away*** Lee Wiley/Bunny Berigan Orchestra • ***Do I Love You?*** Helen Forrest/Artie Shaw Orchestra • ***You'd Be So Nice To Come Home To*** Dinah Shore/Anne Shelton/Paul Weston Orchestra • ***In The Still Of The Night*** Jack Leonard/ Tommy Dorsey Orchestra • ***Easy To Love*** Al Bowlly/Ray Noble Orchestra...*and more!*

Cole Porter - The Vintage Years
2 Tapes 180M £14.95 ★ 2 CDs 180C £16.95

## Sentimental 60s!

**40 Great Songs by 40 Great Artists**



**Doris Day, Perry Como, Nat King Cole, Frank Ifield, Patsy Cline**...*and many more!*

***Release Me • Blue Velvet • Moon River • Edelweiss • Green, Green Grass Of Home • It's Impossible • Sunny • Make The World Go Away Misty • I Left My Heart In San Francisco • Unchained Melody • You Don't Have To Say You Love Me • Where The Boys Are • Let There Be Love • Maria...and many more!!***

Sentimental 60's
2 Tapes 160M £16.95 ★ 2 CDs 160C £19.95

## Midnight Chopin



Set yourself adrift and let your thoughts simply wander as the utterly beautiful piano music of **Frederic Chopin** floats in the air.

Sweet lyrical Nocturnes will transport you to a world long gone, with their rapturous colours and most intimate feelings. Lilting Waltzes will gently caress you with their soft mood of romance. You will relax to the world's most gorgeous Preludes, filled with love and yearning. This is one album that will thrill every listener who loves the piano.

Midnight Chopin
2 Tapes 193M £12.95 ★ 2 CDs 193C £14.95

## Deanna Durbin

**26 All-Time Favourites**
**The voice, the songs, the magic - incomparable!**



***Always • One Fine Day • Cielito Lindo • Brindisi (La Traviata) • Waltzing In The Clouds • Estrellita • It's Foolish But It's Fun • Annie Laurie • Kiss Me Again • When The Roses Bloom Again • It's Raining Sunbeams • When April Sings • Il Bacio • Because • Spring In My Heart • Love's Old Sweet Song • The Old Folks At Home • Amapola • My Hero • Can't Help Singing • The Last Rose Of Summer • Home Sweet Home • Ave Maria ...and more!***

Deanna Durbin
2 Tapes 173M £12.95 ★ CD 173C £14.95

## Songs You've Always Loved

**A Legendary Collection Of Your Favourite Singers!**




***Because*** Richard Tauber • ***The Last Rose Of Summer*** Deanna Durbin • ***A Perfect Day*** Nelson Eddy • ***Without A Song*** Lawrence Tibbett • ***Somewhere A Voice Is Calling*** Richard Tauber • ***Londonderry Air*** Fritz Kreisler (Violin) • ***Land Of My Fathers*** Paul Robeson • ***Goin' Home*** Lawrence Tibbett • ***Largo*** Charles Kullman • ***Jesu, Joy Of Man's Desiring*** Choir Of The Temple Church • ***By And By*** Paul Robeson • ***Were You There*** Paul Robeson • ***Ave Maria*** Joan Hammond • ***None But The Lonely Heart*** Nelson Eddy • ***The Holy City*** Richard Crooks • ***Oh! What A Beautiful City*** Marian Anderson • ***At Dawning*** Paul Robeson...*and more!*

Songs of Inspiration
2 Tapes 256M £16.95 ★ 2 CDs 256C £19.95

## Instrumental GOLD!



***Cherry Pink And Apple Blossom White*** Perez Prado • ***April In Portugal*** Edmundo Ros • ***The Poor People Of Paris*** Les Baxter • ***Don't Cry For Me Argentina*** The Shadows • ***Melody Of Love*** Billy Vaughan • ***Ebb Tide*** Frank Chacksfield • ***Midnight In Moscow*** Kenny Ball • ***Moulin Rouge Theme*** Mantovani • ***Stranger On The Shore*** Acker Bilk • ***"A Summer Place" Theme*** Percy Faith • ***A Walk In The Black Forest*** Horst Jankowski • ***Toccata*** Sky • ***Theme From "Limelight"*** Ron Goodwin • ***Maria Elena*** Los Indios Tabajaras • ***Holiday For Strings*** David Rose • ***Sleep Shores*** Johnny Pearson • ***The Good, The Bad, And The Ugly*** Hugo Montenegro • ***"Exodus" Theme*** Perrante & Teicher • ***Moonglow - "Picnic" Theme*** Morris Stoloff • ***Autumn Leaves*** Roger Williams • ***Petite Fleur*** Chris Barber • ***Blue Star*** Cyril Stapleton • ***'S Wonderful*** Ray Conniff • ***Bye Bye Blues*** Bert Kaempfert...*and more!*

Instrumental Gold
2 Tapes 020M £16.95 ★ 2 CDs 020C £19.95

Music & Memories

Goods are despatched within 7 days from receipt of order. Music & Memories, (Dept. M470), Hays House, Box 99, St. Austell, Cornwall PL25 3YD. We deliver to all addresses in the UK. Orders from The Republic of Ireland welcome (Punt = £).

## 100% Money Back Guarantee

Listen to any of these collections for a full 30 days. If you are not completely satisfied, you may return any item for a full and immediate refund. No questions asked!

**☎ 24 HOUR ORDERING SERVICE ☎**
**0990 110 156**
NATIONAL CALL RATE

Access VISA

## ORDER 3 OR MORE AND GET FREE POSTAGE AND PACKING!

| Item No. | Qty. | Title | Total Price |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | Sub-Total | |
| | | Postage and Handling | £2.05 |
| | | Cheque or Card Total | |

THE NATIONAL NEWSPAPER MOPS MAIL ORDER PROTECTION SCHEME

**Music & Memories** Dept. M470
Box 99, St. Austell, Cornwall, PL25 3YD.

PLEASE USE BLOCK LETTERS

Name _____

Address _____

_____ Postcode _____

☐ Cheque enclosed payable to Music & Memories

Charge My: ☐ VISA ☐ Access

Card No. _____

Signature _____ Exp. Date _____

If you would prefer not to receive information and offers from other organisations carefully selected by us, please tick this box ☐ Haysbridge (UK) Ltd T/A Music & Memories. Reg No 2771545

# SHOPAROUND

TO ADVERTISE CALL:
CALL: 0171 680 6860
FAX: 0171 481 9313

## New ENVIRONMENTALLY SAFE Original PestContro

NO CHEMICALS, SPRAYS OR TRAPS

RATS, MICE & OTHER RODENTS WILL MOVE OUT OF YOUR HOME AND TAKE THEIR DISEASES WITH THEM

AS SOLD ON TV



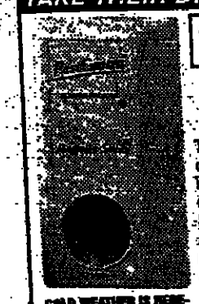
OVER 60 MILLION RATS IN THE UK.

THE 1st ELECTRONIC PEST CONTROL TO RECEIVE WORLD RECOGNITION

The kindest way to repel pests in your home! Ingenious device combines two proven pest control systems - electromagnetic interference and ultrasonic sound. Pests are repelled by the effects of their central nervous system and auditory stress. Simply plugs into a mains outlet to work on rats, mice and ants. Absolutely essential in homes, boats, caravans and ideal for restaurants, warehouses and offices too! Will run for 24 hours a day, 365 days a year reaching parts conventional pesticides miss or can't reach in one easy step.

DOES NOT EFFECT CATS, DOGS, HUMANS OR ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES.

ALSO EFFECTIVE AGAINST SQUIRRELS.
1 UNIT PROTECTS UP TO 2,500 SQ FEET - COSTS ONLY PENNIES A MONTH TO RUN.
NO HOME SHOULD BE WITHOUT ONE.



COLD WEATHER IS HERE- RODENTS looking for warmth in your home?

30 DAY MONEY BACK GUARANTEE AND A 2 YEAR WARRANTY

ONLY £39.99 inc P&P
2 OR MORE £35.00 each
PROMPT DESPATCH

CREDIT CARDS TEL FREECALL 0500 418965

OR SEND YOUR ORDER TO CEBA LTD, (TT4), 1 GARTONS WAY, LONDON, SW11 3SX

## GENUINE BIRTHDAY NEWSPAPERS

From largest archives saved from the past. Printed between 1642-1998. Sunday Newspapers from 1915. Ready for presentation. Same day dispatch.

REMEMBER WHEN
520 Purley Way,
Croydon, Surrey CR0 4RE.
0181 688 6323

## TABLESAFE

HEAT RESISTANT PROTECTION FOR YOUR TABLE

30% OFF



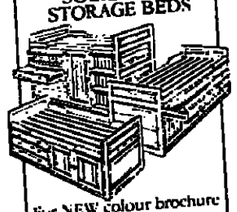
Custom-made, any size, any shape. Tablesafe protects your polished table against heat and stains. Can be reversed for use as a writing surface. Delivery 7-10 days. Write or phone for details and sample.
TABLESAFE
2A FERDINAND PLACE, LONDON NW1 8EE
TEL: 0171-267 5688 or 0171-482 4021

## FREE SELECTIONS LINGERIE CATALOGUE



SEE FOR YOURSELF OUR BRAND NEW COLLECTION OF LINGERIE. SUPERB QUALITY AND STYLES ALL FULLY GUARANTEED
SEND FOR YOUR FREE CATALOGUE NOW
01635 862100
SELECTIONS
DEPT 6TT
PO. BOX 2497, READING, BERKS RG10 4XB

## MORIARTI'S SOLID PINE STORAGE BEDS



For NEW colour brochure PHONE
(01233) 850214

## OIL PAINTINGS

OF YOUR CHILDREN, FAMILY GROUP PET OR HOME

Turn your favourite photographs into beautiful oil paintings in museum frames. You don't need to be a lottery winner to afford one! Prices from £40. The truly unique present.

Telephone us today for a free brochure
0171 589 9559

## DUST MITE PROBLEMS?

TRY THE ONLY PATENTED MITE FREE BEDDING COVERS

Allergy Relief Products Ltd, Mansion Road, Southampton, SO15 3BP.

Tel/Fax 01703 332919.

## The 'Sheila Maid'

CAST IRON AND NATURAL FIRE CLOTHES AIRER
Everything you need to install this "Energy Saving" Airer.
48 hr Despatch
Home Deliveries Worldwide.
Flexible Account Enquiries (UK/Overseas (Dept K.I)



THE TRADITIONAL CURVED SHAPE
18.5" / 47 RAIL WIDTH CAST IRON BACK ENDS
4 PINE, HAND FINISHED ROUNDED EDGE RAILS
NATURAL JUTE PULLEY CORD, SCREWS & PLUGS.
RACK ENDS, PULLEYS, CLEAT IN 6 COLOURS.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| The 'ORIGINAL' (Castings Grey Metal Clear Coated) | | |
| 18" 5361 | £8.537 | £10.592 | £8.541 |
| COLOURS (Cafe Red, Blue, Green, Black White) | | |
| 18" 5331 | £8.536 | £10.587 | £8.592 |

POSTAGE + PACKING ADD £5.
Export Sales Enquiries from U.K. Welcome
THE DOMESTIC PARAPHERNALIA Co. Dept. T
Units 16, Manna Business Centre, Dock Rd, Lytham, Lancs. FY8 5AJ, England
+53 736334 24hrs, Mob: 01253 705191

## Pure Silk Ties. The Finest Gift.

100% PURE SILK. HAND SEWN. 200 designs. All at £9.95. All in the Threads of Silk FREE colour brochure. Superb quality. Also available silk shirts, waistcoats, underwear and nightwear.

For your copy please call
0171 274 3387 (24 hrs)
or write to
Muchen Silk, (Dept TTA1)
FREEPOST/PO Box 3432,
London SE5 8BR

## Hand tailored Plus Twos and Trousers for Gentlemen

From £39.95



Choose from cavalry twill, cord, flannel, tweed and pull checks.
* Made to measure service available
* Most styles and patterns stock at Inverness, others to order
Call 0113 248 8160 for your FREE brochure.

STAMFORD CLOTHIERS
Dept TT, 30 York Road, Leeds, LS9 6RH

## ANTIQUE DESKS

Large Stocks of old desks, Oak, Mahogany, Walnut, Victoria, Edwardian, Rolltop, Cylinder, Partner's, Dickens and Pedestal Desks.
Free delivery within mainland UK.



DON SPENCER ANTIQUES
WARWICK
(01926) 499857 - (01926) 407989
Mobile 0836 525755
www.antique-desk.co.nk

OLD DESKS PURCHASED
36A, Market Place, Warwick. (Beneath Vintage Antique Centre)
www.antique-desk.co.nk

## TO ADVERTISE IN SHOPAROUND PLEASE CALL 0171 680 6860 OR FAX: 0171 481 9313

## CASTLE COOMBE SKID PAN



Learn how to control a car in wet or icy conditions. We provide the cars and instructions. Half day course is great fun and cost £59.50.

GIFT VOUCHERS MAKE EXCELLENT PRESENTS
Castle Coombe Skid Pan
Castle Coombe Circuit
Chippenham, Wiltshire, SN14 7EX
Tel: (01249) 782101

## Hard-To-Get Sizes BEDLINEN

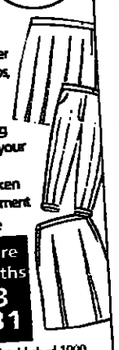


Valance Specialists. Any drop.
25 Bed Sizes 45 Colours
Fitted Sheets any size. Any Depth.
"Special Sizes" Linen Catalogue...
Send Stamp today for Catalogue.
Keys Ltd, Dept: SS481, 132 Old Rd, Clacton-on-Sea, Essex CO15 3AJ
TEL 01255 432513

## Made to measure LADIES SKIRTS & TROUSERS

any shape any size any style
FROM JUST £39.95

Traditional British quality tailoring
- 100s of styles in over 100 cloths - side zips, A-line, full linings you name it!!
- Easy self-measuring in the comfort of your own home or measurements taken from your own garment
- Mail order service



FREE brochure & sample cloths call 0113 248 8131

Winebergs Established 1900
Dept TT, Camart House, 15 Cowper Road, Leeds LS9 7HR.

## OUTDOOR CLOTHING WINTER SALE!!

UP TO 25% OFF PRICES IN OUR REGATTA OUTDOOR CLOTHING BROCHURE.
THESE LOW PRICES ONLY POSSIBLE BY DIRECT MAIL ORDER. ALL ORDERS SENT POST FREE



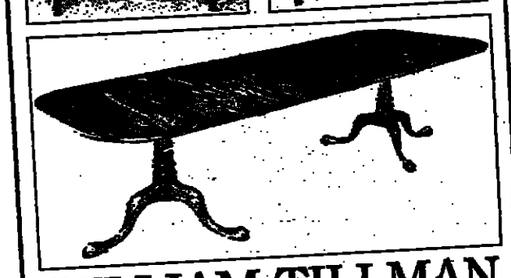
EXAMPLE: Style mercury (as shown) Top Quality 300g anti-pill fleece jackets were £44 now only £33.00 post free, save £11.00 Other fleeces from £21.00.
Also large range of quality waterproof jackets, many interactive with our fleeces, plus bodywarmers, action trousers, waterproof overtrousers etc., for men, women and children, all at low prices! Phone today for brochure.
FREE COLOUR BROCHURE 24hrs
Phone: 07071 223560
Fax: 01579 351433
COUNTRY LIFESTYLE
8, BRISTON ORCHARD,
St. MELLION, CORNWALL PL12 6RQ

Style Mercury: Top quality 300g anti-pill fleece jackets were £44, now only £33 post free!

## Recreating the period. Perfectly.

At William Tillman our craftsmen lovingly create modern masterpieces that reproduce the finest examples of 18th and 19th century furniture to perfection. Call now and let us introduce you to quality that cannot be surpassed anywhere





WILLIAM TILLMAN

When only perfection is good enough.

30, St James's Street, London SW1A 1HB
Telephone: 0171 839 2500. Fax: 0171 930 8106
14-24, Crouch Lane, Borough Green, Kent TN15 8LT
Telephone: 01732 883278. Fax: 01732 884439

## Engaged Couples

Entrance your Valentine with a rare and erotic print, past or modern, European or Oriental, from *Le Journal Secret d'une Jeune Fille, Imitation Amoureuse* and other works, in beautiful and strictly limited editions. (Some stricter than others.) Our 80 page catalogue is illustrated in colour with a seductive selection of the private parts of our private collection.




£5 Cheque (to EPS) or Amex/Visa/Mastercard details to EPS, Dept TWU PO Box 10645, London, SW10 9ZT. Freephone 0800 026 25 24. Fax 0171-244 8999.

Or order on our website http://www.eps.org.uk

## SAME DAY DISCREET MAIL ORDER SERVICE — CONDOMS

| INTRODUCTORY OFFER LOWEST EVER PRICES | OUR PRICE | High Street | YOU SAVE |
|---|---|---|---|
| WORLDS BEST, Luxury Assortment (40) | £16.00 | £26.60 | £10.60 |
| DUREX, Fetherlite (36) | £14.00 | £23.67 | £9.67 |
| WORLDS BEST, Climax, Size: Med (40) | £16.00 | £24.45 | £8.45 |
| DUREX, Extra Safe (36) | £14.00 | £21.07 | £7.07 |
| DUREX, Gossamer (36) | £14.00 | £20.07 | £6.07 |
| WORLDS BEST, Sensi Rib, Size: L (40) | £18.00 | £21.98 | £5.98 |
| MATES, Natural (36) | £15.00 | £17.85 | £2.85 |

Your name will not be recorded in any way. No follow-up mail. We only sell quality condoms. Send your order or send for FREE colour brochure

NAME
ADDRESS
POSTCODE

CHEQUES/PO's to QUICK & DIRECT, FREEPOST (KT4162) WALTON ON THAMES, (No stamp required) SURREY KT12 1BR (Tel: 01932 232443)

## MEN

DOES YOUR SIZE & POTENCY MATTER?

Our FREE report brochure details completely SAFE & NATURAL techniques you can use in your home to enlarge your penis and improve your potency. Developed by Harley Street & World Wide Experts.

NO SURGERY OR INJECTIONS REQUIRED

Our many testimonials prove excellent results within 4 WEEKS
ACT NOW to receive your FREE report (sent under plain and confidential cover).

Send 2 x 1st class stamps to Dash Publishing (Dept TM) Freepost, PO Box 22 Plymstock, Plymouth, PL8 2BR

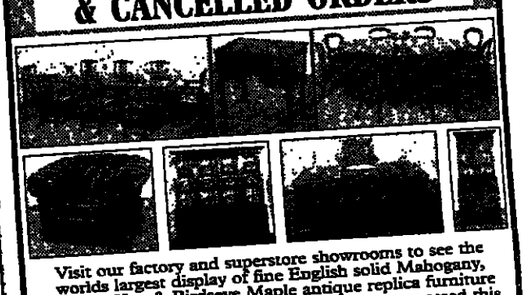
## Enjoy using and improving your FRENCH with *Le Vie Outre-Manche*

*The French language magazine for UK readers*

Entertaining articles in French: current affairs, tourism, activities, plus humour, crossword, etc.
Used and recommended by many French teachers, this bi-monthly magazine contains many translation aids to assist comprehension and enjoyment.
*Subscribe now and receive our FREE pull-out STUDY GUIDES.*
12-month subscription: £15.60 (post free)
Orders (post free) to: *Le Vie Outre-Manche*
FREEPOST, MA 1311(M), Maidstone ME15 9BR

## FEBRUARY CLEARANCE SALE UP TO 30% OFF

## SURPLUS/OBSOLETE STOCK & CANCELLED ORDERS



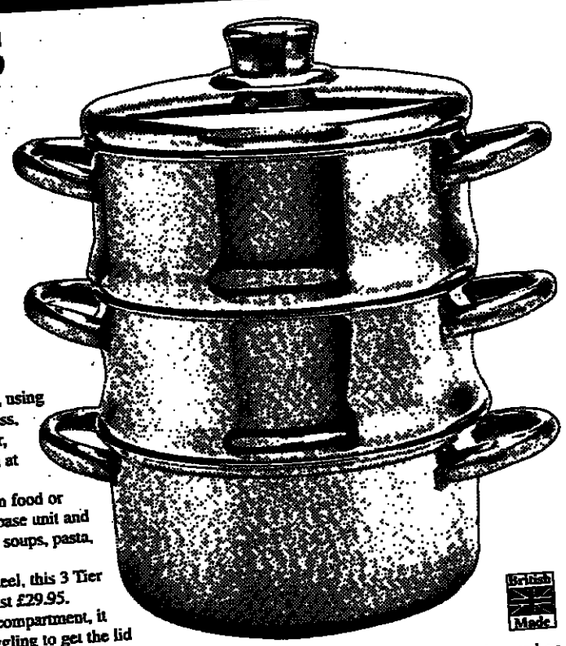
Visit our factory and superstore showrooms to see the worlds largest display of fine English solid Mahogany, Walnut, Yew & Birdseye Maple antique replica furniture made by master craftsmen to a standard unsurpassed this century or phone for brochure.

*Mon-Sat 9am-5.30pm*
BRITISH ANTIQUE REPLICAS
32 SCHOOL CLOSE, QUEEN ELIZABETH AVE., BURGESS HILL
(BETWEEN GATWICK & BRIGHTON) WEST SUSSEX RH15 9RX
Tel: 01444 245577

## *Traditional style, value and great ideas ...*

# STAINLESS STEEL 3 TIER STEAMER

*for a very special £29.95 (RRP £48.00)*



Steaming is one of the healthiest ways you can cook, using little or no fat, it retains the flavour, natural goodness, texture and colour of the food. With this 3 tier steamer, you can use one of its steaming compartments, or both at the same time. Perfect for steaming vegetables, rice, seafood, fish, eggs, poultry and meat, defrosting frozen food or for re-heating food without drying it out. The 18 cm base unit and lid can also be used as a stockpot to simmer and cook soups, pasta, stews, gravy and sauces.
British made from Highly Polished 18/10 Stainless Steel, this 3 Tier Steamer set represents fantastic value for money at just £29.95. With two extra deep (4 inches - 10.16 cm) steaming compartment, it allows you to cook family size portions without struggling to get the lid on.
With an overall height of 12 inches (30.48 cm) it has a 3 mm encapsulated base allowing even heat distribution, and can be used on all heat surfaces except Induction. Dishwasher friendly it has stay cool stainless steel handles and knob and is on offer for a very special £29.95 including postage and packing, saving a massive £18.05 on the recommended retail price.

British Made

### *Order by Post*

Fill in the coupon quoting your Mastercard/Visa account number or send together with cheque (address on back please) or crossed Postal Order NOT CASH to :-
**Coopers of Stortford (Ref 9038), Admail 100, Bishop's Stortford, CM23 2FD.**

### *Or Telephone*

Call 01279 438150 for MasterCard/Visa Credit Card orders, 24 hour, 7 day service. Please quote reference 9038 when ordering.
For enquiries telephone 01279 635348 Monday to Friday between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.
Allow up to 28 days for delivery from receipt of order. We deliver to address in the UK ( including Northern Ireland). If you are not satisfied with your purchase return the goods to us, unused and in the original packaging, within 28 days for a refund or exchange.

**Coopers** OF STORTFORD

STAINLESS STEEL 3 TIER STEAMER ORDER FORM

| Please send me | Qty | Price | Total |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3 Tier Steamer | | £29.95 | |

(Please indicate quantity and total)

Mr/Mrs/Miss (Initials) _____
Please use block capitals
Address _____
_____
_____
_____ Postcode _____
Daytime Telephone No. _____

I enclose a crossed cheque/Postal Order made payable to Coopers of Stortford for £ _____ or please debit my MasterCard/Visa (Delete as appropriate)
with the sum of £ _____
Card No _____
Signature _____
Expires _____
If you would prefer not to receive information, offers or services from other companies carefully selected by Coopers of Stortford, please tick box ☐. Ref. 9038

Coopers of Stortford is a trading name of The Enterprise Department Ltd
Head Office: 22 Causeway, Bishop's Stortford, CM23 2EJ Reg. No. 2917681

# See up to 7 miles away with secret spy scope!

## See what's happening far away – without being seen!

Super Power Optical Lenses pull in distant people, houses, wild animals and natural wonders.



PULL IN NATURE'S WONDERS... mountains, valleys, hamlets with this handy, but very powerful optical wonder!



HORSE RACING... is more fun with Spy-Scope. Focus it on the finish line and you'll know the winner – before it's announced!



PEOPLE WATCHING... our favourite pastime whether on holiday, in the street, at the beach, in fact, wherever you are!



OBSERVE WILDLIFE... at such distances that animals or birds can't see you or even catch your scent. Great for birdwatchers!

Now available to the general public. This amazing miniaturised SPY SCOPE is barely 6 inches long. Ruggedly made. Fits your pocket like a pen and weighs less than one ounce. Yet, deep inside this miniaturised marvel, are hidden a series of genuine, precision-engineering optical lenses. SPY SCOPE is so powerful, it pulls in far away people... houses... sports... mountains... lakes... even the moon!
SPY SCOPE'S performance is due to its SUPER POWER and LONG RANGE – equal to heavy binoculars weighing 16 times more – and costing £25 or more! Now anyone can enjoy this amazing optical instrument at this amazing low cost!

### Enjoy thrills galore at sporting events

Carry SPY SCOPE in your pocket – always ready for instant views of sports... horse racing... boating... motor racing... cricket... tennis... football... boxing... rugby... golf. We guarantee you'll never miss the inside plays with this miniaturised power scope!

### See what's happening far away without being seen!

The long range lenses in this fine instrument make it ideal for police, detective or spy operations. The sensational pull-in power lets you observe all kinds of suspicious activities at great distances. You can see THEM. But they can't see YOU. You are able to study the antics of wild animals. Yet, they're so far away, they can't even catch your scent! Imagine it! This deluxe model can now be yours – direct by mail – for only £9.95. What a modest price to pay for a lifetime of utility and pleasure!

### Enjoy 30 day home trial!

Test SPY SCOPE without risk or obligation! Enjoy spectacular views of mountains... forests teeming with wild animals. Add extra fun to sports. Check prowlers or suspicious persons. Then, for the ultimate thrill, point this amazing instrument at the full moon and let your imagination soar! And remember: You don't have to be a secret agent or detective to enjoy this see-all wonder! Send the coupon today for a 30 DAY HOME TRIAL. Satisfaction guaranteed or your money back.

£9.95 + p&p



NOT A TOY
but a precision made instrument!
Don't confuse this rationally advertised telescope with cheap toy emulsi! SPY SCOPE is equipped with GENUINE OPTICAL LENSES of great power and long range! But don't take our word for it. Try it at our risk! Send the coupon NOW for 30 DAY FREE HOME TRIAL.



**FREE** SPECIAL FEATURE!

Did you know that SPY SCOPE is actually 2 INSTRUMENTS IN ONE? First of all, it's a handy TELESCOPE of incredibly long range, but at your command, it converts into a powerful MICROSCOPE. We call it the MIGHTY MIDGET MICROSCOPE because it gives you 25 POWER MAGNIFICATION. For instance, when you study a tiny weed through the Microscope, it 'changes' into a fearsome 'Monster'. It gives terrific enlargements of animal or plant cells. It's ideal for inspecting rare stamps, valuable coins. Use it for detecting counterfeit currency and fraudulent signatures or cheques. It also magnifies fingerprints to 25 times for easy comparison.
You'd expect to pay £40, £50 or even £100 for the microscope alone – yet it's yours for not one penny extra! Just imagine how useful this mighty-midget can be around the house, office or school – to say nothing of the LONG RANGE TELESCOPE!
We predict SPY SCOPE (with the 'piggy back' microscope) will be your prized possession for a lifetime! Don't lose out on this great offer.

### ENJOY ON 30 DAY HOME TRIAL

SEND NOW TO: Camrell Ltd, Dept SS3, Main Road, Alresford, Colchester, Essex CO7 8AP or telephone our 24 hour order line on 01206 825600.

YES... send me for a 30 day Home Trial –
☐ One SPY SCOPE for £9.95 + £3.00 p&p
☐ Two SPY SCOPES for £19.90 postpaid – SAVE £6.00!
If you would like to order more than two SPY SCOPES, please add £7.00 for each additional order.
☐ I enclose my cheque for £_____ payable to Camrell Ltd
☐ Please charge my (Visa/Master/Switch) card:
EXPIRY DATE ISSUE NO SIGNATURE
NAME
ADDRESS
POST CODE
Delivery usually within 7 days but please allow up to 14 days. We hope to be able to bring you a variety of further exclusive offers from reputable companies – if you prefer not to receive such offers, please write to Camrell Ltd at the above address.

24 HOUR ORDER LINE 01206 825600

Exclusively sold by mail order. We aim to deliver within 7 days but please allow up to 28 days for delivery.

Sick of the rat race? Want to be a monk? So do lots of other people, says **Greg Watts**

# Oh Brother, we can't cope


REX

The Carthusians are given a white robe when they join St Hugh's and told that one day it will become their shroud

The strictest religious order in the Catholic Church is in crisis — because too many people want to join. Increasing numbers of men are spurning the materialism of the 1990s to become Carthusians at St Hugh's Charterhouse, near Horsham in West Sussex. "It's getting out of hand," says a bemused Father Cyril Pierce, the prior. "We've run out of space."

Last year Fr Cyril, a benign, mischievous-looking man who discovered monasticism through the writings of Thomas Merton, handled about 200 inquiries from men interested in the Carthusian life of silence, solitude, simplicity, prayer and denial. It is a life that has changed little since its founder St Bruno, in the 11th century, created his cocktail of Benedictine spirituality and wisdom of the Desert Fathers of Palestine and Egypt.

By the time of the Reformation there were about 200 Carthusian monasteries in Europe, including 12 in England. While many religious orders and congregations today have no applicants, six men are waiting to join the 15 men already in the novitiate at St Hugh's, the only Carthusian monastery in the UK and one of only 23 in the world. With its French Gothic-style architecture and sheer size, it resembles a walled town.

"The English-speaking world seems to be waking up to a desire for the contemplative life," says Fr Cyril. Those who have embarked on the seven-year formation at St Hugh's include a computer consultant, an air-traffic controller, a writer, an engineer and a musician.

After exchanging their civvies for the white habit and cowl of the Carthusians, novices are told that it will also be their shroud when they are interred in the small cemetery, their life commemorated only by a simple, nameless cross.

A Carthusian monastery, says Fr Cyril, is a symbol of the desert, and those who enter it live as hermits, unlike the Benedictines and Cistercians. The silence of the monastery is only an aid to finding inner silence. Communion with God is the aim of the life, a difficult concept to express in words, he admits.

Acknowledging the uniqueness of St Hugh's, English Heritage has channelled £500,000 into a refurbishment programme. But in 1990 the Carthusian headquarters at Le Grand Chartreuse — famous for its green liqueurs — was going to close St Hugh's, which they founded in 1373 as a refuge for their members in France who were facing expulsion. The vast complex was crumbling and vocations had dried up.

When many of us are going to bed, Brother Simon, an apprentice jockey before entering the monastery in the 1960s, is beginning his day. Along with the 28 other choir monks, lay monks and familiars (a sort of auxiliary), he rises at 11.45pm, sleeps between 3.30am and about 6.45am, and again from 8pm until 11.45pm.

> The lads find it tough when they come in

The new kids on the cloister experience particular problems in adjusting to life in St Hugh's. "When the lads come in they find it more difficult than in my day because many have come from relationships," he says. "It takes two or three years to get over them."

Carthusian monks eat, study, work and pray in "cells": small, spartan, four-room houses, with a workshop and garden, which open on to the half-mile-long great cloister. They leave their cells only three times a day — to join the rest of the community in the church to chant at matins, lauds and vespers, and for the celebration of Mass, or if there is a meeting in the chapter house, which Father Cyril calls "the business centre". Lay brothers, who were once treated as second-class monks, are responsible for the day-to-day running of the monastery, such as preparing the food — delivered to the choir monks via a hatch in the cell wall — cleaning and laundry. The monastery produces its own cheese, yoghurt and apple wine.

"I was not accepted for the cloister," said Brother Simon. "I was told I had no aptitude for solitude or intellectual ability." But, he added conspiratorially, he is content with being a lay monk as he has plenty to do each day. "I couldn't live like a cloister monk, spending all that time alone in the cell."

Brother Simon has got used to going without meat and, once a week (usually on Fridays), living on dry bread and water. He is not allowed to speak to anyone without the prior's permission.

However, once a month all the monks go for a long walk, crocodile fashion, when they are allowed to talk. no monk, however, may talk to another for more than 20 minutes. The monks are only allowed to leave the monastery in an emergency. Apart from doctors or nurses, women are prohibited from the enclosure and families may visit only twice a year.

A Carthusian turns his back on the world but comes face to face with himself in a harsh environment providing none of the escape routes of modern life, and where the spiritual temperature can sap even the most determined.

Mental instability and visions are some of the dangers posed by such an arduous spiritual trek. Fr Cyril says that the spiritual, psychological and physical make-up of applicants is carefully scrutinised and that nine out of ten are rejected. "We don't encourage people to have visions," he chuckled, adding more seriously, "the more spectacular sides of spiritual experience are pretty dangerous".

Unsurprisingly, at least half of those who enter the cloisters of St Hugh's drop out. "We expect to lose people," says Fr Cyril. "But a man who leaves us is not a failure."

With surveys showing that increasing numbers of people live alone, Fr Cyril believes the traditional contemplative life, where silence speaks louder than words, has much to offer those searching for answers to the spiritual barrenness of the 1990s with its self-help books and New Age quackery. This search is likely to become more urgent as we approach the millennium.

# The truth about Gandhi



**Ruth Gledhill** celebrates the life of the great statesman

IN SPITE of its prior billing as "multi-faith", the service to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the martyrdom of Mahatma Gandhi had one underlying creed, and that was Truth.

Lord Attenborough, creator and director of the Oscar-winning film *Gandhi*, alongside actor Ben Kingsley, who portrayed Gandhi, joined the procession with the choir into the church, where the unusually large congregation overflowed to a video-link in the basement. Discarding a microphone and relying on the power of his voice, Lord Attenborough welcomed us to the service, organised by the Gandhi Foundation, set up in 1983 to spread knowledge of Gandhi's teaching.

"Gandhi was not the commander of armies nor the ruler of vast lands," he said, quoting from his film. "He could not boast of any scientific achievement or artistic gifts. Yet many governments and dignitaries from all over the world have joined hands today to pay homage to this little brown man in the loincloth who led his country to freedom."

Gandhi, known as Bapu, the Father of the Nation, was assassinated by a Hindu extremist on January 30, 1948 while walking to his daily prayer meeting. His murderer was opposed to his message of peace, nonviolence and interfaith understanding.

According to President Narayan of India, in a message to mark the anniversary, Gandhi "died, stopped in his tracks by three bullets, a martyr for peace. "But there is another way of looking at that moment," he said. "It was the Mahatma who stopped three bullets of hatred in their lethal trajectory. Between the origin and the track of hatred and conflict he placed himself."

Saeed Jaffrey, who played Sardar Patel in the film, quoted from an article by Prime Minister Nehru 50 years ago. "Why should we grieve for him? Our memories of him will be of the Master, whose step was light to the end, whose smile was infectious and whose eyes were full of laughter."

Geraldine James, who was Miraben, read passages by Martin Luther King, Nelson Mandela and the Dalai Lama, three men influenced by Gandhi's teachings on non-violence.

BUT THE most moving part was the readings from Gandhi himself, by Ben Kingsley. The power of his words to move, even today, was extraordinary. We were advised that when in doubt, or when the "self" became too much for us, we should consider whether the step we were contemplating would be of any use to the most helpless person we had ever seen. "Then you will find your doubts and your self melting away."

● *The Gandhi Foundation, Surur Hoda, 68 Downlands Road, Purley, Surrey CR8 4JF (0181-668 3161).*

AT YOUR SERVICE

★ *A five-star guide* ★

**VICAR:** *The Rev Nicholas Holtam*

**ARCHITECTURE:** Unmissable façade with Corinthian columns, dark interior. ★★★

**ADDRESS:** Lord Attenborough on Gandhi's life. ★★★★★

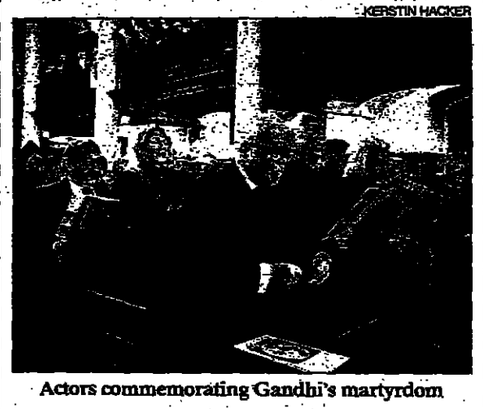
**LITURGY:** Readings with hymns, meditation and prayer ★★★

**MUSIC:** Themes from Gandhi's favourite ragas. ★★★★

**SPIRITUAL HIGH:** Satyagraha, holding fast to truth. ★★★★

**AFTER-SERVICE CARE:** Refreshments where the first Gandhi International Peace Award was presented. ★★★★

KERSTIN HACKER



Actors commemorating Gandhi's martyrdom

# Now it's payback time in life's rich pageant

Credo



DOUG GAY

With the birth of Calum Henry on Christmas Eve I have begun to reflect on the ageing process. Overnight. I have been promoted by one generation, seen my first grey hairs appear and lost so much sleep that already I feel ten years older. Time for quiet reflection is in short supply these days and when it arrives I tend to doze off, but some impressions have been irresistible.

One of the first effects of parenthood seems to be a renewed sense of gratitude towards our own parents. It's payback time in the life-cycle, when the huge effort of caring for a tiny human being reminds you forcibly that someone once did this for you.

Perhaps it is meant to be a timely reminder, a godsend to each generation, setting off a ripple of gratitude through society which should result in a proper provision of care for its senior members.

Of course, not everyone is a parent, but the net effect should be inclusive of everyone. The birth of every new generation is the prompt to remind us of a proper symmetry of care, between the vulnerability of childhood and the vulnerability of old age.

When Christians try to construct a theology of welfare and make our contribution to the "hard choices" urged on us by the present Government, there must be a place for the value of gratitude.

Alongside the virtue of individual thrift or the language of rights and entitlement, the state pension also deserves to be seen as a kind of eucharist from the whole community to its senior members, an act of blessing and thanksgiving to them for their earlier work and care. Sadly, the value at which it is set suggests we are a less than grateful society in respect of our elders.

In case the language of gratitude appears over-patronising and to console my ageing self (now almost halfway to my three-score years and ten), let me also acknowledge last week's call from Age Concern to fight age discrimination.

Alongside the greying of our society must come a new culture of opportunity and respect for the gifts of senior workers. I know of no better witness to this than, from my own profession and my own church, the life and example of Bishop Lesslie Newbigin who died last week. He was my first and best teacher of theology at the age of 79 when he came with his wife to Glasgow to deliver the lectures which became *The Gospel in a Pluralist Society*. After a lifetime of humble and distinguished service in the Church of South India and outstanding work within the world ecumenical movement, he returned to be a pastor in inner-city Birmingham and to take a prophetic role within the churches in the United Kingdom.

Most of the obituaries written about Bishop Newbigin were focused on his first 70 years, but it was only recently that I learnt more about his earlier career from reading his remarkable autobiography *Unfinished Agenda*. What made him a hero, mentor and teacher of mine was the work he did in his seventies and eighties.

Like a birth, a death can also be a prompt to gratitude and a call to action. I can almost hear him say it, with more than a hint of dignified impatience: "Skip the tributes and get on with the agenda!"

Thank you, Lesslie — we'll try.

● *Doug Gay is minister of Clayton Park United Reformed Church.*

EXCLUSIVE TIMES OFFER THE TIMES



# Hostas at half normal price

HOSTAS are one of today's most popular and versatile perennials. Their beauty and richness is unequalled in any other shade-loving plant, giving bold, colourful and often fragrant flowers. Ideal plants for cutting, they grow well in shady or sunny positions. We have four different varieties on offer to *Times* readers.

**Honeybells** with mid-green leaves and off-white flowers in August, and a height/spread of 24in.

**Sieboldiana** with large heart-shaped blue-grey leaves and lilac flowers which appear in early summer, 2-3ft in height, with a 2ft spread.

**Aureomarginata** with medium-sized green leaves edged in silver-white, lilac-purple flowers in July-August and a height/spread of 15-18in.

**Albo Picta** with medium-sized, pale green broadly variegated leaves, with buff-yellow and pale violet flowers in early spring. Height 18-24in and an 18in spread.

Each pack has three roots and costs just £5.99. Alternatively, treat yourself to one pack of each variety for only £11.98 — giving you four packs for the price of two.

*The Times* Hostas Offer

Name (Mr/Mrs/Ms)

Address

Post Code

I enclose a cheque/postal order(s) made payable to: *The Times* Hostas Offer FT720.

Value No.

Please write name and address on back of all cheques.

Or debit my Access/Visa card number

Print Name Expiry Date

Signature Date

| PLEASE SEND ME: | QTY | £ PER ITEM | TOTALS |
|---|---|---|---|
| A – Pack of 3 Honeybells | | £5.99 | |
| B – Pack of 3 Sieboldiana | | £5.99 | |
| C – Pack of 3 Aureomarginata | | £5.99 | |
| D – Pack of 3 Albo Picta | | £5.99 | |
| Buy A, B, C and D for half-price | | £11.98 | |
| Price includes postage and packing. | | TOTAL COST | |

Send coupon and remittance to THE TIMES HOSTAS OFFER FT720, PO Box 8, Spalding, Lincs, PE12 6EB. Allow 28 days for delivery from receipt of order. Offer available in UK only. If dissatisfied please return goods within seven days of receipt for full refund. No claims for loss in transit can be made after 60 days. The Times cannot be held responsible for returned goods lost in transit. Offer subject to availability. You may be sent further information on offers and services which may be of interest to you. If you do not wish to participate please tick box.

FOR ORDERS PLEASE TELEPHONE 01775 710000 (24 HOURS)

# Church services tomorrow

Third Sunday before Lent

**ARMAGH CATHEDRAL:** 10 HC; 11 M; 3.15 Ch E. Harris in A.

**BANGOR CATHEDRAL:** 8 HC; 9.45 Cymun Bendigaid; 11 Ch Euch. Darke in F; 3.15 Festal E; 5 Gosber.

**BELFAST CATHEDRAL:** 10 HC; 11 S Euch. Hear my prayer (Purcell); 3.30 Ch E.

**BIRMINGHAM CATHEDRAL:** 9 MP; 9.15 HC; 11 Ch Euch. Darke in F, Canon G O'Neill; 4 Ch E. Responses (Tomkins).

**BLACKBURN CATHEDRAL:** 8 HC; 9.15 Ch M; 10.30 Euch. Messe Solennelle (Langlais); 4 Education Sunday Service.

**BRECON CATHEDRAL:** 8, 11 Euch. Canon G Hughes: 3.30 E. Kempton in B.

**BRISTOL CATHEDRAL:** 7.40 M; 8 HC; 10 Ch Euch, O quam gloriosum (Victoria); 3.30 Ch E, Second Service (Leighton).

**CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL:** 8 HC; 9.30 M; 11 S Euch. Mozart in F, Rev P Down; 3.15 E. Purcell in B flat; 6.30 E.

**CARLISLE CATHEDRAL:** 7.45 M; 8 HC; 10.30 S Euch. Darke in F; 3 Hospice Service.

**CHELMSFORD CATHEDRAL:** 8 HC; 9.30 Euch; 11.15 Ch M, Ireland in F & C, Canon D Knight; 6 Ch E. Wood in F.

**CHESTER CATHEDRAL:** 7.45 L; 8 HC; 10 Euch. Little Organ Mass (Haydn); 11.30 M; 3.30 E. Sumsion in A; 6.30 ES.

**CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL:** 8 HC; 10 M, Short Service (Weelkes); 11 S Euch; 3.30 E. Domine Dominus noster (Lassus).

**CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL,** Dublin: 11 S Euch; 3.30 Ch E. Service for five voices (Weelkes).

**CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL,** Oxford: 8 HC; 10 M; 11.15 S Euch; 6 E. Gloucester Service (Howells).

**COVENTRY CATHEDRAL:** 7.40 MP; 8 C; 10.30 Euch, Rev Dr P Bee; 3 German Lutherans; 5 Ch E. Stanford in B flat.

**DERBY CATHEDRAL:** 8 HC; 10.45 S Euch. Stanford in G; 6 Ch E, A: Declare His honour (Purcell), Canon G Marshall.

**DURHAM CATHEDRAL:** 8 HC; 10 M, Boyce in C; 11.15 HC, Mass in four parts (Byrd), Canon M Perry; 3.30 E.

**ELY CATHEDRAL:** 8.15 HC; 10.30 S Euch, Western Wind Mass (Tye); 3.45 E.

**EXETER CATHEDRAL:** 8 HC; 9.45 S Euch. Stanford in C & F; 11.15 M; 3 E, Responses (Leighton); 6.30 ES.

**GLOUCESTER CATHEDRAL:** 8 HC; 10.15 Euch, Missa Brevis (Berkeley); 12.15 HC; 3 E for Education Sunday.

**GUILDFORD CATHEDRAL:** 8 HC; 9.45 S Euch; 11.30 M; 6.30 E. Harwood in A.

**HEREFORD CATHEDRAL:** 8 HC; 10 Euch. Missa Brevis (Mozart); 11.30 M; 3.30 E. Norwich Service (Patterson).

**LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL:** 8 HC; 10.30 S Euch, Short Service (Weelkes); 3.30 E.

**LINCOLN CATHEDRAL:** 7.45 L; 8 HC; 9.30 Family Service; 11.15 Sol Euch, Canon R Rodger; 12.30 HC; 3.45 E, Wise in F.

**LIVERPOOL CATHEDRAL:** 8 HC; 10.30 Euch, Canon M Boyling; 3 Ch E; 4 HC.

**NEWCASTLE CATHEDRAL:** 7.30 M; 8 HC; 9.30 S Euch. Missa Festiva (Peeters); 6 Ch E & Diocesan Confirmation.

**NEWPORT CATHEDRAL:** 8, 9.30 Euch; 10.30 M, Let all the world (Vaughan Williams); 6.30 Ch E, Dyson in D.

**NORWICH CATHEDRAL:** 7.30 MP; 8 HC; 9.15 Family C; 10.30 S Euch; 3.30 E; 6.30 Young People's Euch.

**PETERBOROUGH CATHEDRAL:** 9.30 M, Stanford in B flat; 10.30 Euch; 3.30 E.

**PORTSMOUTH CATHEDRAL:** 8 HC; 9.30 Euch, How in D; 11 S Euch, Messe Solennelle (Vierne), Rev M Millett; 6 E.

**ROCHESTER CATHEDRAL:** 8 HC; 9.45 M, Britten in C; 10.30 S Euch; 3.15 E, Chichester Service (Walton).

**SALISBURY CATHEDRAL:** 8 HC; 10 Euch, Messe Solennelle (Langlais); 11.30 M, Rev D Watson; 3 Ch E, Murrill in E.

**SHEFFIELD CATHEDRAL:** 8 HC; 10 MP; 10.30 S Euch, Rev J Cotter; 6.30 E, Wesley in E, Canon J Sinclair.

**SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL:** 9 Euch; 11 Ch Euch, Missa Sancti Nicolai (Haydn); 3 Ch E, Coventry Service (Whenam).

**SOUTHWELL MINSTER:** 7.30 M & L; 8 HC; 10.30 Euch, Coronation Mass (Mozart), Rev Dr J H Moses; 3.15 E.

**TRURO CATHEDRAL:** 8 HC; 9 M; 10 S Euch; 6 E, Purcell in E minor.

**WAKEFIELD CATHEDRAL:** 8 HC; 9.15 C; 11 Sol Euch, Jauchzet Gott (Schütz); 4 E.

**WELLS CATHEDRAL:** 8 HC; 9.45 S Euch, Losinga Mass (Archer); 11.30 M; 3 E.

**WESTMINSTER ABBEY:** 8 HC; 10 M; 11.15 Euch; 3 E, Stanford in A; 5.45 Organ Recital; 6.30 ES, Sister H Markey.

**WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL:** 7, 8, 9 Mass; 10.30 Sol Mass; 12 Mass; 2.45 Organ Recital; 3.30 Sol V & B, Magnificat primi toni (Lassus); 5.30, 7 Mass.

**WINCHESTER CATHEDRAL:** 10 M, Vaughan Williams in G; 11.15 S Euch; 3.30 E, Collegium Regale (Wood).

**YORK MINSTER:** 8, 8.45 HC; 10 S Euch, Spatzenmesse (Mozart); 11.30 M; 4 E, Wesley in E; 6.30 Education Sunday.

**ST ALBAN'S CATHEDRAL,** Hertfordshire: 8 HC; 9.30 Euch; 11 Sol Euch; 6.30 E, Rubbra in A, Rev P Goode.

**ST ANDREW'S CATHEDRAL,** Aberdeen: S HC; 10.15 S Euch, Beati quorum via (Stanford); 6.30 Ch E.

**ST ASAPH CATHEDRAL,** Denbighshire: 8 HC; 11 Ch M, A: View Me Lord (Lloyd); 3.30 EP.

**ST DAVIDS CATHEDRAL,** Pembrokeshire: 8 HC; 9.30 Cymun Bendigaid; 11.15 Ch M, Stanford in C; 6 Ch E.

**ST FIN BARRE'S CATHEDRAL,** Cork: 8 Euch; 11.15 Ch Euch, Ireland in C; 7 Ch E.

**ST GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL,** Southwark: 8, 10 LM; 11.30 Sol Mass, L'hora Passa (Viadana); 6 LM.

**ST GILES' CATHEDRAL,** Edinburgh: 8, 10 HC; 11.30 MS, Rev W J G McDonald; 6 Choral music; 8 ES.

**ST MACHAR'S CATHEDRAL,** Old Aberdeen: 11 MS, A: Like as the hart (Howells); 6 ES, Rev R Frazer.

**ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL,** Edinburgh: 8 Euch; 10.30 S Euch, Missa brevis in B flat (Mozart); 3.30 Ch E, Noble in B minor.

**ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL,** Dublin: 8.30 Euch; 11.15 M; 3.15 Ch E, Walmisley in D minor, Rev B F B Lougheed.

**ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL:** 8 HC; 8.45 M; 11 S Euch, Missa Pange lingua (Josquin des Prez); 3.15 E, Second Service (Leighton); 5 Organ Recital: Simon Johnson.

**RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL,** SW7: 10.30 Divine Liturgy. Kievan and traditional polyphony. Met Anthony.

**ALL SAINTS,** W1: 8 LM; 10.20 MP; 11 HM, Missa Festiva (Peeters); 5.15 LM; 6 E & B, Rev I Davies.

**ALL SOULS,** W1: 8 C; 9.30, 11.30 MP; 6.30, 8.30 Mr G Daniels.

**THE ASSUMPTION,** W1: 11 MS, Missa descendit angelus Domini (Palestrina).

**CHELSEA OLD CHURCH,** SW3: 8 HC; 10 Children's Service; 11 M, A: Jesu the very thought is sweet (Bairstow); 12.15 HC; 6 E.

**CROWN COURT CHURCH OF SCOTLAND,** WC2: 11.15 MS; 6.30 ES.

**FARM STREET,** W1: 8, 9.30 LM; 11 HM; 12.30 LM; 4.15 Mass; 6.15 LM.

**HOLY TRINITY BROMPTON,** SW7: 9 HC; 11 MS; 5, 7.30 Informal Service.

**HOLY TRINITY,** SW1: 8.45 Euch; 11 S Euch, Missa tu es Petrus (Palestrina).

**THE ORATORY,** SW7: 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 Mass, Messe Solennelle (Vierne); 12.30 Mass; 3.30 V & B, O bone Jesu (Brahms); 4.30, 7 Mass.

**ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH** of St Sarkis, W8: Name Day of the Church.

**WESLEY'S CHAPEL,** EC2: 9.45 HC; 11 MS, Rev D L Griffiths.

**WESTMINSTER CENTRAL HALL** (Methodist): 11 MP, Rev Dr P Graves; 6.30 EP, Rev Dr M White.

**ST ANNE AND ST AGNES** (Lutheran), Gresham St, EC2: 11 Ch Euch, Rev P D Schmiege; 7 Ch V.

**ST BARTHOLOMEW THE GREAT,** EC1: 9 HC; 11 M, Ireland in F; 6.30 Ch Euch, Rev M Thompson.

**ST BRIDE'S,** EC4: 11 Ch Euch, Whitlock in G; 6.30 Ch E, Short Service (Byrd).

**ST CLEMENT DANES,** WC2: 11 Ch Euch, Mass for five voices (Byrd), Rev S Ware; 12.30 HC.

**ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH OF SCOTLAND,** SW1: 11 Rev W A Cairns; 6.30.

**ST ETHELDREDA'S,** EC1: 11 S Mass, Missa cum jubilo (Durufle).

**ST GEORGE'S,** W1: 8.30 HC; 11 S Euch, Stanford in A, The Rector.

**ST JAMES'S,** Garlickhythe, EC4: 10.30 S Euch, The Rector.

**ST JAMES'S,** W1: 9.15 HC; 11 S Euch, Ms E Appleby; 5.45 EP.

**ST JOHN'S,** E15: 11 Family Service; Toccata (Gigout); 6.30 HC.

**ST LUKE'S,** SW3: 8 HC; 10.30 S Euch, A: Justorum Animae (Stanford); 6.30 E.

**ST MARGARET'S,** SW1: 11 S Euch, Canon Dr P Bradshaw.

**ST MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS,** WC2: 8 HC; 9.45 Euch; 11.30 Visitors Service; 2.45 Chinese Service; 6.30 ES.

**ST MARY ABBOTS CHURCH,** W8: 8 HC; 9.30 Euch; 11.15 Ch M, Rev P Stubbs; 12.30 HC; 6.30 E, Rev F Gelli.

**ST MARY'S,** SW1: 9, 10 LM; 11 HM, Missa Simile est regnum coelorum (Victoria), Fr B Scott; 6 Sol E & B; 7 LM.

**ST MARY-THE-VIRGIN,** NW3: 8 HC; 10.30 Euch, Missa O magnum mysterium (Victoria); 6 EP & meditation.

**ST MARYLEBONE,** NW1: 8 HC; 11 Ch Euch, Spätzenmesse (Mozart).

**ST PAUL'S,** SW1: 8, 9 HC; 11 Sol Euch, Missa Sancti Maria Virgine (Zipoli).

**ST PETER'S,** SW1: 8.15 HC; 10 Family Euch; 11 S Euch, Messe Solennelle (Isaac).

**CHAPEL ROYAL OF ST PETER AD VINCULA,** HM Tower of London: 9.15 HC; 11 M, Second Service (Gibbons).

**CHAPEL ROYAL,** St James's Palace: 8.30 HC; 11.15 MP, Rev R S Clarke.

**CHAPEL ROYAL,** Hampton Court Palace: 8.30 HC; 11 M; Boyce in C; 3.30 E.

**QUEEN'S CHAPEL OF THE SAVOY,** WC2: 11 M, A: Justorum animae (Stanford), Rev R Bolton; 12.30 HC.

**GRAY'S INN CHAPEL,** WC1: 11.15 M.

**THE TEMPLE CHURCH,** EC4: 8.30 HC; 11.15 MP, Britten in C.

**GUARDS CHAPEL,** Wellington Barracks, SW1: 11 M, Orche Nash (Stravinsky), Rev L H Bryan, Band of the Blues and Royals; 12 HC.

● *Compiled by Deborah King*



Holidays away from the sea

Summer sun · 26-28

THE TIMES
# TRAVEL

If it's lunch it must be Prague

Day-trips · 29



# Brief but passionate encounter

**Sophie Campbell** flies down to Rio, a vast cultural melting pot and home of the body beautiful

TONY STONE



On Rio's beaches the over-35s exercise while the under-35s display their toned and tanned physiques. Here is a country which values buttocks over breasts, brevity over modesty

"V-A-A-A-A-A-A-A-A-A-A-A-A-A-A-A-A-A-A-SCO!" We are up on our seats waving shirts, bandanas, anything to show our love. Coloured smoke pours off the terraces and giant flags ripple over the heads of the crowd. The concrete reverberates with explosions. Across the stadium, the enemy sways uneasily, like a vast bed of red and black seaweed. Suddenly it freezes, and slumps, and *it's a* G-O-O-O-O-O-O-O-A-A-A-A-A-A-A-LL! Oh joy! I've only been a Vasco fan for ten minutes . . . so what? This is Rio! "Vasco! Ah! Ah! Ooh! Ooh!"

Five minutes later, in the sickening horror of an equaliser (our turn to slump), I suddenly realise that this *is* Rio. Look at it . . . the stained 1950s concrete of the Maracanã Stadium, its blue paint and metal seats and smell of urine uplifted by the antics of the crowd.

The incredible mix of people — green eyes, black hair, brown skin, pink tourists — with the rich up there in the boxes and the rest singing their hearts out down here in the stands. The menacing police car circling the pitch. The numbers (150,000 people, almost capacity), the violence (shown later on TV), the exuberance that makes you wonder if the whole thing is going to spin off into the night sky like a flying saucer, lights blaring, crowd howling, trailing coloured smoke.

The advertising slogan that will take the city into the next century is to be "Incomparable Rio" and, for once, it is true. There is no other city on Earth like this.

The best way to find out just why is to take the rack-and-pinion railway up the forested slopes of Corcovado, the granite hump known as the Hunchback, to the 35-metre statue of Christ the Redeemer on its summit. In his loose robe of soapstone tiles, Christ is probably the most overdressed person in Rio — but he unquestionably has the best view.

At his feet, the forest plunges down to gigantic Guanabara Bay, with its fortified headlands and classy marinas. To the north is less glamorous Rio — downtown and the poor northern suburbs: to the south and east is the curvy blonde beach of Copacabana, followed by Ipanema, Leblon and São Conrado — sand superstars every one. And there on the corner between the *zona norte* and the *zona sur* glimers Sugar Loaf, tethered by the cable car lines made famous in the Bond film *Moonraker*.




Even the least observant visitor cannot fail to notice the extraordinary juxtaposition of rich and poor: behind the white surf of apartments and hotels facing the beach, the city backs into the arms of the mountains in a raw jumble of concrete, brick and corrugated iron. These are the *favelas*, the slum suburbs, which have some of the best views and grimmest conditions in the world. Possibly two million of Rio's six million inhabitants live in *favelas*. The doorman or the bus driver or the bellboy at your hotel probably will. Most were built to house construction labour in the Seventies and they were blamed for the crime wave which culminated, a decade later, in Rio's darkest hour: the murders of street children by the security forces.

These days, the city has cleaned up its act. It might not look that different: Copacabana's Hippy Market is still selling the same tooled leather maps of Brazil, lacy hammocks and pungent Bahian food. The pavements still boast their famous swirly Sixties patterns designed by Oscar Niemeyer. Vendors still slog up and down the beaches with polystyrene cool boxes and there are still those disquieting glimpses of the Third World behind the fabulous apartment blocks of Ipanema and Leblon. But there are subtle differences: an increased police presence, teams of T-shirted cleaners on streets and beaches, strictly controlled parking on the Avenida Atlântica, Rio's equivalent of the Corniche. Smart hotels still employ guards on the beach, but the place feels much safer.

> 'Bikinis are of the dental floss variety'

I can recommend taking a public bus. They go faster than any bus you have ever been on, careering down the coast road from downtown to Ipanema and beyond, squealing on to their haunches at traffic lights, affording fabulous — if fleeting — views of Flamengo Park, the Rio Yacht Club and the 19th-century suburb of Urca, Botafogo Bay, Sugar Loaf, Christ the Redeemer and all stops between.

They sail along Copacabana, where the over-35s are jogging, swimming, touching their toes, cycling, watching beach volleyball and sipping from fresh coconuts. Then they cross a stretch of city streets and pop out on Ipanema, where the under-35s are just content to *be*.

I have a mission in Ipanema. I am looking for a beloved — and rare — bossa nova tape that was stolen from my car last year, and I have been told that I will find it in Gabriela's, a CD shop nearby. "Bossa nova?" says the assistant incredulously. "Não!" I feel as if I have been caught in Tower Records asking for an Andy Williams album. Outside on Visconde de Pirajá, sleek women dart in and out of fabulously expensive household goods and lingerie shops. In fact, everywhere you look there is lingerie. The bras are tiny, the knickers staggeringly brief, the bikinis are generally the *fio dentão* (dental floss) variety beloved of Brazilian women. If you are northern European, you can only peer

## cities FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

over the cultural divide and despair. Here is a country which values buttocks over breasts, brevity over modesty (though toplessness, strangely enough, is rare) and a tan over absolutely everything else.

After two more CD shops — same response — I defiantly buy lunch in the Garota da Ipanema (the bar where *The Girl from Ipanema* was written), easily the uncoolest thing you can do in Rio.

Down on the beach I can see two women making phone calls from bright yellow public booths. Only their bottom halves are visable: one in a silk trouser suit, one in a piece of string. It is not true that everybody on Ipanema is beautiful, but it is true that where one in 50 people turn your head on a north European beach, one in ten do down here.

Stomping along the fine sand, I spot a foreigner because she reminds me of myself: pale, overdressed — T-shirt and shorts — and carrying a magazine. Wrong, wrong, wrong. They had a "Read on the Beach" campaign in Rio a few years ago, but it had no effect. Instead, *carioca* women fiddle with their postage-stamp bikinis while their men plunge into the sea. It is worth remembering, before you get too depressed, that the original Girl from Ipanema was only 14.

Right now, unless you live in a *favela*, Rio is feeling good. Hotels everywhere are being revamped. A new terminal is being built at ghastly Galeão airport, which can only get better — and Copacabana's own subway station should open in March, June or December next year, depending on local politics. Tourist surveys show a huge drop in petty crime, though anyone silly enough to wander along the beach at night will certainly go home with no wallet and a good story.

Something — could it have been the Earth Summit? — has brought on a cleaning frenzy, because there are more public toilets, and less sewage is being pumped into the bay.

Back in London, I tell the cabbie that I went to my first football match in the Maracanã Stadium and he nearly crashes. "That's a lifetime ambition for me," he says wistfully. "I'd like to do that before the end of the century." Put it this way, if someone offered me New Year's Eve 2000 at the Copacabana Palace hotel, or on the terrace of the Rio Atlântica, with thousands of people in white *macumba* outfits on the ghostly crescent of the beach, fireworks exploding and 40 per cent proof *caipirinhas* on tap, I'd fly down to Rio. In a trice.

### FACT FILE

■ Sophie Campbell flew to Rio with Varig Brazilian Airlines (0171-287 3131) — return fares from £580 until July 2). Thursday flights are direct (others via São Paulo). She stayed at the Copacabana Palace Hotel, where room rates start at £180 per night (Orient-Express Hotels 0181-568 8366 for details).

■ Turismo Classico (00 55 21 523 3390) arranges tailor-made holidays in Rio and Brazil. It currently has rates of US$228 (£140) for a double room at the Copacabana Palace, and $159 (£97) at the Partieiro poosada in Paraty.

■ Classic sights: Cable-car tickets for the return trip up Sugar Loaf cost about £8.50 (aim for late morning, when the early mist has burned off) and the railway up to Corcovado costs £9 return.

■ Helisight (00 55 21 511 2141) offers helicopter rides at Sugar Loaf, starting at £25 per person for a seven-minute flight (minimum three people). Seven different flights are also available, including a 15-minute night flight at £90pp.

The bus trip from downtown to Ipanema/Leblon costs 40p.

■ Top shopping: Try Lenny's in the Forum Shopping Center, Ipanema (bikinis from £50) before graduating to *carioca* emporia like Blue Man and Bum Bum in the Rio Sul Center. Great shoes from the Mr Cat chain (try the one on the crossroads of Visconde de Pirajá and Aníbal de Mendonca). Good value CDs from Gabriela Music, at 260 Visconde de Pirajá, also City CD and Brenno Rossi, on the first and second floors of Rio Sul respectively. But don't expect to find the bossa nova beat.

■ Best bars: There are surprisingly few overlooking the ocean (because Av Atlântica is in the way) and even less in the open air (because of Rio's storms). Instead, make for the Lagoon and try Mostarda (Ave Epitacio Pessoa 990), which has a covered terrace and dancing at weekends, or the trendy Thirties eaterie Restorante Lagoa, at 1674 Lagoa. A beer which will cost 90p on the beach will set you back £3 at the Copacabana Palace Hotel — most bars and restaurants fall somewhere in between. To try *cachaca* (sugar-cane liquor and the most popular drink in Brazil), visit the Academia de Cachaca at Rua Conde de Bernadote 26 in Leblon, where cocktails start at £1.75.

■ Value for money: Freshly pulped fruit juices for about 60p at the stand-up juice bars all over town. Iced coconuts for 60p-£1 from the beach kiosks (drink the milk, then ask them to split it open so you can eat the flesh). *Petiscos* (literally, "pinches") — bite-sized snacks like yam crisps or stuffed palm hearts — which you get in bars for upwards of £1.50. The airport bus, known as the *frescão* (air-conditioned), which starts from the Inter Continental Hotel and takes a spectacular coastal route to the airport for £3. Allow an hour and a half for the drive.

■ Reading: Three excellent books — for background, Insight Guides' *Rio de Janeiro* (Apa Publications, £12.99), for superb practical detail; the classic *South American Handbook* (Footprint Handbooks, £22.99); and for local colour, *How to be a Carioca* by Priscilla Ann Goslin and Carlo Carneiro (available in Rio from Two Can Press, £10 approx).

■ For more details contact Riotur (Rio's tourist board) Tourist Services Center, Av Princesa Isabel 183, Copacabana (00 55 21 541 7522).

■ Brazilian Tourist Board: 0171-499 0877.

Harwich – Hook of Holland

FIRST WE HALVED THE JOURNEY TIME TO HOLLAND.

NOW WE'VE CUT THE COST.



**Book before 31st March 1998 and save 20% on the cost** of taking the car from Harwich to the Hook of Holland on the largest fast ferry in the world: the Stena HSS.

Simply book a Standard Return or a Standard 5 Day Return - that's for a car and up to 5 people - before 31st March 1998 and you'll automatically get 20% off. That's right. 20% off travel any time during 1998.

(And should you wish to change your departure date, you can do so once without any added cost.)

Spacious, bright and airy, the revolutionary Stena HSS offers you a great choice of bars, restaurants, tax and duty free shopping and children's play areas.

And jets to the Hook of Holland in just 3 hrs 40 mins.

Which means you'll feel really relaxed before driving on to Amsterdam, Brussels or wherever else takes your fancy.

So call **0990 70 70 70** now for full details and reservations or contact your Travel Agent.

*For full terms and conditions see current 1998 Fast Ferry & Ferry Guide.*

Stena Line

*The next generation of ferry company*

TRAVELS WITH CHILDREN: A SURVIVAL GUIDE

# Our adventures in search of local action

**Louise Nicholson** has a reliable recipe almost guaranteed to keep the whole family happy on holiday

We edged our way through the rush-hour traffic of Bangalore, capital of India's Karnataka state. Billed as "India's fastest growing city" since the early 1980s, it is now very big: a hotch-potch of Indian cinema billboards, Raj churches and Chicago-style black-mirrored high-rises.

Our children, William, then aged seven, and Oliver, five, were not amused by the log-jam so we invented a game. Taking turns to spot something that we would not have seen in a London traffic jam, we cried out one after another, "bamboo scaffolding"... "cow eating newspaper"... "bicycle with five people on it"... "lorry with paintings and tinsel on it"... "funeral procession with thumping good band and dancers" and more.

In what seemed no time at all, we were on the open road and could stop at a café for some reviving fresh lassi, puri and sabsi (milk shake, fried bread and vegetable curry). My sons wolfed it all down to the amusement of the burly, bearded Punjabi truck drivers who, until then, thought foreigners lived on bananas.

Travelling with children is not always so easy. Parents need more than a spot of ingenuity to survive long trips, and not all children are prepared to go native.

Parents must be permanently on guard. One year, we made a late booking for a spectacularly cheap but deluxe holiday to Kenya. The flight and transfer were painless, the hotel beautiful. Our sons even had their own room.

However, the next morning we found them happily guzzling the last of an early morning feast of chocolate, cashews and fizzy drinks from the mini-bar. And they *could* have swigged the contents of a dozen miniature gins and whiskies. This summer we had the mini-bar emptied and bought drinks and snacks at the local supermarket.

But these are minor events. If children today are spoilt jet-setters — this year Greece, next year America — it is because there are such good-value package deals promising warmth, good food and free sports programmes.

Going slightly out of season improves the price further, and no one minds the odd end-of-monsoon shower. The ultimate goal of keeping all members of the family happy, all of the time, can be realised.

But in many countries, a superb holiday resort is isolated from its surroundings. One way to combat this is to use local transport and to find out what is going on. The local newspaper and a guide book are good sources for finding local action.

During our Mark Warner holiday to Thessaloniki in northeast Greece — a huge success but totally isolated from its bucolic surroundings — we rented a car for the day and went to Dion and Mount Olympus, where we bought local honey, went walking in the forest and picnicked among the goats and ancient gods. It was no more expensive than taking a hotel trip, and much more fun.

In Goa, we zipped around Panaji in an autorickshaw, took a local boat up a river to visit a farmer and went to the best circus we have ever seen — and not another white face in the audience. In France, we combined buses and a ferry to reach an unfashionable island east of Marseille, with tiny empty beaches. In California, the silver, double-decker train up to San Francisco was much more exciting than yet another car drive, as was the train journey through *National Geographic* landscape down to Santa Barbara.

Trains and buses make some of the best adventures, as do bicycles, rented or borrowed. Our sons enjoy using the different currencies, reading the map and meeting local children — language seems to be no barrier. In India, they compared exercise books and sang songs together; in Kenya they joined in the local football game. We find local parties such as the wild boar festas of Tuscany, weekly markets displaying unfamiliar fruits and fish, and supermarkets — Mauritius has especially good ones, stocked with French cheeses and wines. And we always check out the cafés for delicious local dishes that hotels are sometimes reluctant to serve.

These outings are family adventures, backed up with supplies I know my sons need: a backpack stocked with water, snacks, binoculars, compass and camera, swimming kit, sunscreen and hats. On long trips we add paper and crayons, a personal stereo and tapes, a pack of playing cards and other versatile games, a selection of books and the holiday diary. This provides enough variety to get a family through any amount of delay — even the Bangalore rush hour.

LOUISE NICHOLSON



*William in India, wearing a shirt bought in Mauritius*












# Fasten my seatbelt

**Jane Bidder** and her husband managed to survive a 27-hour flight to Sydney — with four children in tow

"You must be mad," everyone said, when we announced we were taking our three children aged six, 11 and 13, plus a four-year-old niece, on a two-stop, 27-hour flight to Sydney. But there was method in our madness.

We had been talking of visiting my husband's 92-year-old grandmother for years. Then we had discovered cheap charter air fares. Providing we left before the peak Christmas period and flew home on December 25, the five of us could travel for £2,200 with Airtours — the price of our week's summer holiday in Corfu. With prices like these, there was no en-route stopover in a fancy hotel. Instead, we were to have two one-hour breaks while we refuelled in Bahrain and Singapore. Tough, but we could do it.

I packed with care. If the children were to survive a day and night on a none-too-spacious Boeing 767, we would need the equivalent of an on-board toy shop. I invested in four Tamagotchis, three Game Boys, Travel Scrabble, Adrian Mole/Noddy/Helen Dunmore books and several pairs of clean knickers.

We started off badly with a three-hour drive in torrential rain to Manchester before checking in to a Forte Posthouse Manchester Airport hotel, where we had booked its pre- and post-flight package, which includes a double room with an interconnecting twin, transport to and from the airport and car parking for up to 15 days (£145). Our dawn plane was delayed for two hours, so we opened the Travel Scrabble on the airport carpet. "Boring," said Giles, the six-year-old. "You haven't seen anything yet," we replied.

"I don't know how I'm going to cope with you lot for 27 hours," said my sister Nancy, who had come along for the ride with her four-year-old daughter Georgina. I was wondering the same thing.

Excitement mounted as we boarded, partly because it was also William's 14th birthday. Giles immediately pressed the stewardess's call button. "I only wanted a headset," he said. "We're still taking off," hissed Lucy, 11.

> 'I don't know if I can cope with you lot for 27 hours'

The first two hours were not too bad thanks to breakfast, drinks and the loudly flushing loo ("I'm sure there is a lion down there," said Georgina). The third hour began to pall and the fourth got tricky. I produced the Tamagotchis and there was an instant bear fight. Still, it helped to pass the time. "I want something to eat," announced Giles, pressing the call button yet again.

"You can't keep doing that," said my husband reasonably.

"Why not?"

Five hours down and only 22 to go. Still, Bahrain was only three hours away. No sweat. Or it wouldn't have been if I had packed better. "Where's my Game Boy?" asked William. I could have sworn it was in the Adidas bag. Then again, I might have put it in the school sports bag. Or my handbag. Or my husband's jacket. It was not easy heaving down five pieces of hand luggage in front of a curious planeload. But each child was duly given the correct Game Boy so my husband and I managed to snuggle up for all of ten minutes.

"My Tamagotchi is dead," wailed Georgina, until William resuscitated it.

"Mine's done a poo," announced Giles to the consternation of the man behind. "Did I feed the rabbit before we left?" wondered Lucy. "Too late," we said firmly.

Bahrain came just in time to stretch our legs and admire the duty-free shops. Suddenly we realised we were the last ones to embark. "Run," said my sister, "or we'll be here until next week." We just made it. Bahrain is a "silent" airport without announcements to chide late passengers.

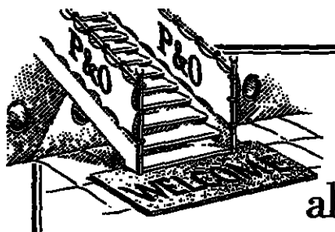
Giles made the most of the new crew — the old set had wearied of the call button — and obtained new batteries for his Game Boy. William hibernated under his blanket. Lucy produced several Ladybird books and said she was going to give Georgina a crash-course in reading.

"Only three more hours to Singapore," chirped Adrian, a passing steward.

"Will I have time to do this?" asked Giles, unzipping his backpack to reveal a 500-word fiddly jigsaw which I had removed before we left home. "How did that get back in?" I asked. Giles grinned and proceeded to lose 300 bits down the side of the chair.

I think I then took to the vodka. For one who is more accustomed to Earl Grey, it did the trick. I vaguely remember the pilot announcing it

Continued on page 25




You're never all at sea on a P&O Newcomers Cruise.

First-footers on our Newcomers Cruises are guaranteed a friendly reception, whether you've chosen one of our new superliners, Arcadia or Oriana, or the more intimate Victoria for your debut.

You'll find a bottle of champagne waiting for you in your cabin and an invitation to an exclusive Newcomers cocktail party.

There's even a special P&O escort on hand to ensure your cruise runs smoothly.

Prices start at £1,195* for a 12 night cruise to the Canaries but you can choose from destinations as different as the Caribbean, the Mediterranean or the Norwegian Fjords.

So if it's your first cruise, just relax. We plan to make it the first of many.

P&O Cruises

Name: _____ AC16

Address: _____

_____

Postcode: _____

For a copy of our 1998 brochure see your ABTA Travel Agent, call 0990 726 726 or post this coupon to P&O Brochure Services, 1CO Victoria, Bristol BS1 3YX.

*Price per adult for an inside 4 berth cabin cruise no. 803.

TOURING HOLIDAYS

Worldwide

N. AMERICA & FAR AWAY

29 Quality Touring Holidays including:

EASTERN USA & NIAGARA
9 Day Tour featuring: New York, Niagara Falls, Penn-Dutch Country, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Annapolis, Washington DC — FROM £659

GOLDEN WEST USA
14 Day Tour featuring: San Francisco, Napa Valley, Lake Tahoe, Yosemite NP, Las Vegas, Grand Canyon, Flagstaff, Scottsdale, San Diego, Los Angeles — FROM £815

AUSTRALIAN ADVENTURE
16 Days featuring: Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide, Alice Springs, Ayers Rock, Great Barrier Reef, Cairns; PLUS option to stopover in Bangkok & Singapore from £100 — FROM £1795

EUROPE & THE MED

21 Escorted Touring Holidays including:

HIGHLIGHTS OF ANDALUCIA
8 Day Tour featuring: Granada, Cordoba, Seville, Gibraltar; PLUS option to add a week in the Algarve from £74, or Torremolinos from £66 — FROM £295

VENICE, FLORENCE & ROME
8 Day Tour featuring: Venice, Assisi, Rome, Pisa, Florence; PLUS 7 nts in Lido di Jesolo from £60, Sorrento from £114 or Lake Garda from £124 — FROM £319

ARCHERS PRICES INCLUDE
* FREE CONNECTING FLIGHTS from regional airports to Heathrow with most North American holidays.
* LOCAL COACH CONNECTIONS from over 1,000 towns to departure airport for £5 return.
* ALL AIRPORT TAXES and UK Air Passenger Duty included.
* Services of a professional tour director/resort representative
Holidays and offers are subject to availability

DIRECT FLIGHTS from up to 17 UK AIRPORTS

BOOK DIRECT & SAVE ££s

CALL OUR 24hr BROCHURE LINE 01233 211 100 — QUOTE REF. E-STI-0702-THN

OR CUT THE COUPON AND POST TO: ARCHERS, PO Box 170, Ashford, Kent TN24 0LX

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

_____

POSTCODE _____ TELEPHONE _____

ABTA V4868

Archers

BOOK DIRECT FOR BETTER VALUE

A member of the COSMOS Group, market leaders in escorted coach tours for over 30 years.

Ask us for more information on Scotland and we go to pieces.



Why not find out more about the areas that interest you most? Choose your FREE brochures by ticking the boxes below.

1. Ayrshire and the Isle of Arran ☐
2. Dumfries & Galloway ☐
3. Scottish Borders ☐
4. Edinburgh, Coast & Countryside ☐
5. Greater Glasgow & Clyde Valley ☐
6. Angus & Dundee ☐
7. The Kingdom of Fife & St Andrews ☐
8. Perthshire ☐
9. West Highlands & Islands, Loch Lomond, Stirling & Trossachs ☐
10. Grampian Highlands and Aberdeen ☐
11. The Highlands of Scotland ☐
12. The Western Isles ☐
13. Orkney ☐
14. Shetland ☐

PLUS: "Scotland. When Will You Go?" The Holiday Planning Guide ☐

And (when available): Spring into Summer ☐ Autumn Gold ☐

When was your last break in Scotland? Year _____ Month _____ Haven't been yet ☐

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

_____

POSTCODE _____

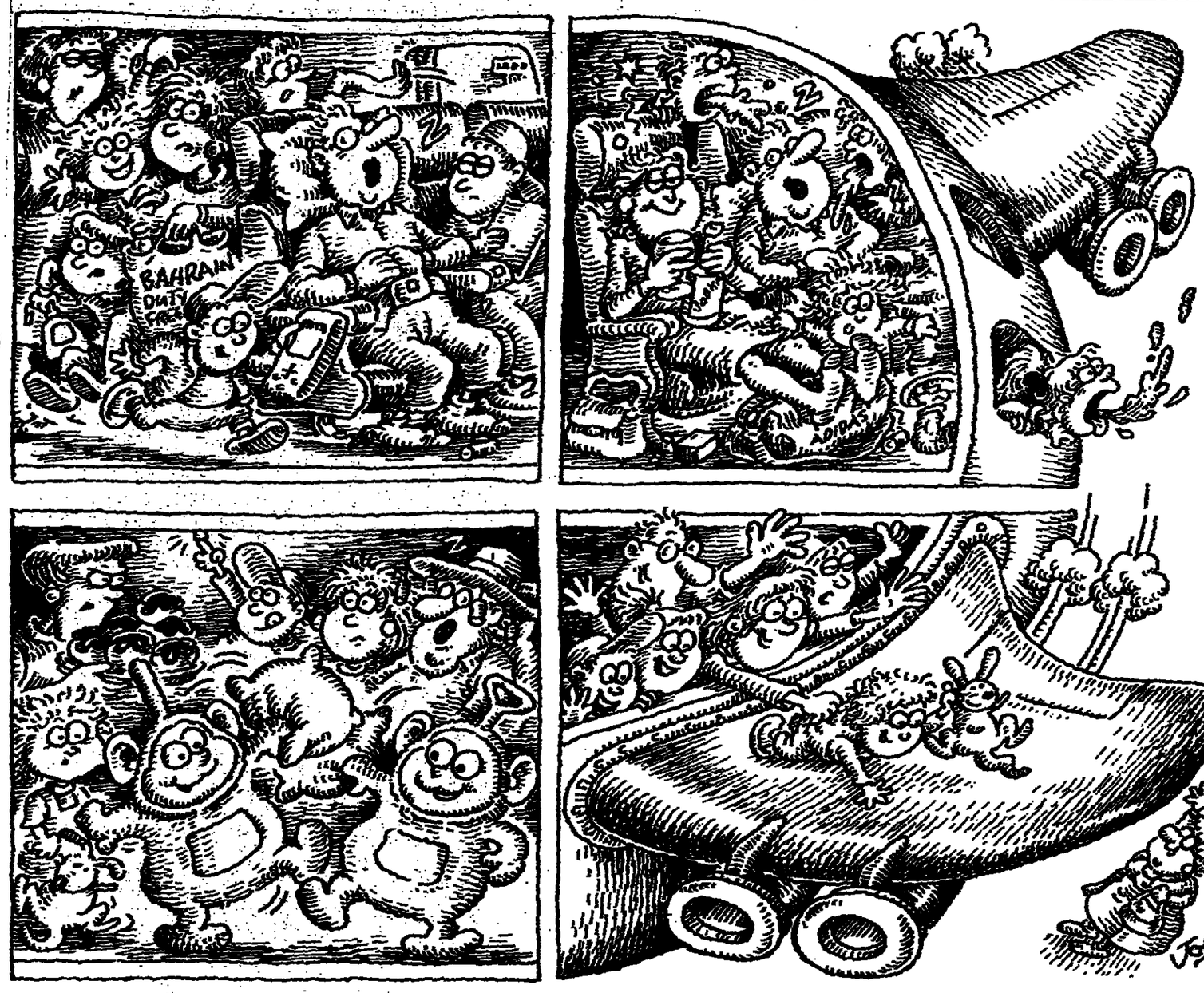
SCOTLAND

When will you go?

Send to: Scottish Tourist Board, FREEPOST, Dunoon, Argyll PA23 7UZ. Or call 0990 511 511 quoting 98TT2. Only available to UK and ROI residents. www.holiday.scotland.net

Data Protection: From time to time we permit other organisations to write to you about their products or services. If you would prefer not to hear from such organisations, please tick here ☐

TRAVELS WITH CHILDREN: A SURVIVAL GUIDE




# When B&B means no bed for baby

Having an infant in tow can complicate a weekend break, as **Jennai Cox** found out too late



Tallullah nearly spent the night in her car seat

As we do every Bank Holiday weekend, at the end of last August my husband and I grabbed a map, jumped in the car and headed up country. We never plan these trips and merely stop when we feel like it, staying in bed and breakfasts along the way. The only difference to our short breaks of the past was, on this occasion, that we were accompanied by Tallullah, our six-week-old baby.

I had anticipated a little more trouble than usual finding a B&B that would take us. Being mainly converted homes, many of Britain's guest houses have less than soundproof walls, and babies tend to cry. But our daughter would not need breakfast and we had our own carry-cot. So I was not as worried as I should have been about finding somewhere to stay.

We ended up, about 5pm that Friday evening, driving through Barmouth, a town on the mid-Welsh coast. We stopped outside the first B&B we fancied and my husband went to ask if they had a room. Yes, was the first response of many. "For two, is it?" "Well, yes, two adults and a baby." "Oh, well," came almost every reply thereafter. "Sorry, actually, no, um... the wife doesn't really like having children."

My heart began to sink, and went on sinking as the proprietor of each B&B we tried gave a similar response. "We don't have the facilities," and "she might disturb the other guests" were the main excuses.

The owner of one B&B opposite the beach, with a board outside welcoming all children and animals, said we would have to stay for a minimum of four nights, when we were only going to be away for two.

We were just unlucky, according to the Welsh Tourist Board. I was told that Wales prided itself on welcoming everyone, with or without a young family, and that of the 175 B&Bs featured on the Welsh Tourist Board's touring map, almost all could accommodate children and more than 100 provided cots.

Some B&Bs — although few of those we tried — have signs outside indicating whether they cater for children. But there are no rules: each establishment determines its own policy.

Many B&Bs either do not or will not admit young children, and because they rarely advertise, it is impossible to know before you get there.

As much as I would like to believe that being turned down by ten B&Bs in one night was bad luck, I can't. I am sure it happens all the time, and assume that parents often don't complain because, like me, they feel intimidated.

Around 8pm that night we found a delightful two-bedroom cottage-style B&B with a stream at the bottom of the garden, and five minutes' walk from the beach. Olive Williams, landlady of the Pandy Talybont B&B (just outside Barmouth), took us in without question, and we had an absolutely wonderful stay.

The fretful experience has not put us off doing a similar trip. But we would advise other parents to book a room for the night in advance — as in future we will.





# ...and pass the vodka

Continued from page 24

was William's birthday and my husband nicking one of the children's Game Boys. Georgina spilt lemonade all over her tracksuit. "There should be a crèche on these things," said William, darkly.

The Game Boy batteries died just as we touched down at Singapore. It was tempting to stay — great airport — but after a quick dash to the loo ("so nice to sit down", as Lucy put it), we were hustled back.

The last lap was the worst. It crawled by rather like the new set of crew who lacked the sunny smiles of the previous bunch. When Lucy was sick, no one offered any assistance. When she got stomach pains and I dared to ask if there was a hot-water bottle on board, I was informed that no airline carried one. I asked if it was possible to improvise and a large bag with something hot inside eventually arrived. By the time we landed, eight children were being sick (only one was ours).

"We've made it," I said.

"Can we go swimming now?" asked Giles.

We tottered through baggage collection and Lucy was sick again at passport control. "Welcome to Australia," said a nice young man at the desk.

On the return journey the family next door had four-year-old twins who spoke fluent Teletubby, had pillow fights and made ours look like goody two-shoes. At Singapore, Giles made up a walk-backwards game on the horizontal escalator which nearly made us miss the plane. Lucy's suggestion that we left him behind was seriously considered.

The previous grumpy crew turned up for the Singapore-Bahrain lap and were not amused by the Teletubbies. The mother and I agreed that it was like being in the hands of unsympathetic midwives. Food assumed massive importance by providing Something To Do, even if chocolate buns at 4am were not to everyone's taste.

There was more hassle when Lucy wanted her new Céline Dion tape, my husband required his toothbrush and I lost my book. Which bag? Who knows. I unravelled three headphones somewhere over Arabia but could not find mine so watched a silent version of the new Tarzan film (intriguing), sucking ice cubes to alleviate the sore throats which had struck us all just after Singapore.

We must have stopped at Bahrain because we have got the duty-free to prove it. And I dimly recall a fight over the Tetris Game Boy which diverted the attention of the row behind which was wearying of the Teletubbies.

"We've just lost 11 hours," said my husband from under his blanket.

We sleep-walked out of Manchester airport, wearing shorts in the rain, and fell into a luxury hotel bed where we hibernated for 12 hours. The children's jet lag lasted four days. Ours still continues.

"Was it worth it?" asked friends. Definitely. We saw Australia, didn't we? Long-distance flying is like childbirth. Agony at the time but the results are worth it. We would even do it again.



Game boy Giles, 6

## TAKING THE CHILDREN TO AUSTRALIA

■ Airtours International (01706 260000) has return flights from Gatwick/Manchester to Sydney for £599 in March, dropping to £549 between December 9-15; no child discounts this year.

■ Austravel (0171-734 7755) has charters to Sydney, starting at £549, valid until the end of April. Trailfinders (0171-938 3939) has scheduled flights with Philippine Airlines starting at £646.

■ Forte Hotels (0345 404040) has an airport package called "Take Off, Touch Down" with prices starting at £43 at Birmingham airport.

■ The price for Manchester is £98; Gatwick, £89. The price includes one night's accommodation, either outbound or inbound, and is per room: usually, it means a twin/double but family rooms sleeping four are sometimes available.

■ The price also includes 15 days' free parking. Extra days are charged at different rates — Manchester, £3 daily, for example.

■ Reading: *Travel with Children* by Maureen Wheeler (Lonely Planet, £6.95); *Family Travel*, magazine with tips for travelling with children — four issues a year, annual subscription is £14.95 (ask at your newsagent or call 0171-272 7441).

SORRENTO & THE BAY OF NAPLES

7 nights from £295 half board - based on the lovely Baia di Puolo Hotel
or for a supplement of £19 per night the 4-star Grand Hotel Vesuvio

This captivating area is one of those corners of the world blessed with a gentle climate, stunning coastal roads, the colours of lemons, oranges, bougainvillea, azure sea and sky and the Italian gusto for life, all bathed in an inspirational light to which the traveller always promises one day to return to live. While the main reason for a visit is to relax and absorb the exquisite surroundings, to enjoy good food and wine, there are also some fascinating historical sites such as Pompeii, Paestum and Capri.

Flights are from Heathrow to Naples by British Midland scheduled seat configured Boeing 737 aircraft every Sunday. We have chosen two splendid hotels - the Baia di Puolo Hotel and 4-star Grand Hotel Vesuvio in Sorrento as our base to relax, to enjoy their fine facilities and from where you can explore the beautiful Amalfi Coast.

HOTEL BAIA DI PUOLO

This is a cosy property located right on the beach at St Paul's Bay some 4 kms from Sorrento centre. All rooms have ensuite facilities with either beach or mountain view. Public facilities include a bar, lounge/lobby and a renowned restaurant.



GRAND HOTEL VESUVIO

Located 2 kms from Sorrento centre it enjoys fine views over the Bay of Naples. There is a choice of restaurants and the 215 rooms have facilities ensuite with bath or shower, air-conditioning and satellite TV. There are a number of bars and lounges and a large swimming pool.

7 nights from £295

DEPARTURE DATES & PRICES

1998 Sundays - 7 nights per person in a twin/bedded room
April 5, 12 £370 - April 19, 26 £295
May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 £335
June 7, 14, 21, 28 £360 - July 5, 12, 19, 26 £360
August 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 £360
Sept 6, 13, 20, 27 £360 - Oct 4, 11, 18 £360

Beach View (Puolo) £35 p.wk. Extra Week £135. Single £80 p.wk. Upgrade to Grand Hotel Vesuvio £133 p.wk twin, £235 single.

Includes: transportation throughout, 7 nights on half board, local guides, UK departure tax. Not included: travel insurance, tipping. Our current Conditions of Booking (available on request) shall apply to all reservations.

0171-616 1000

VOYAGES JULES VERNE
21 Dorset Square, London NW1 6QG
Travel Promotions Ltd. ABTA V1661 ATOL 2633
Internet http://www.vjv.co.uk

Our offices are open Monday to Friday from 9am to 8pm and at weekends for telephone reservations from 9.00am to 5.00pm. For personal visitors our office hours are 9am to 5pm weekdays only.

SPECIAL OFFER

from £499
HONG KONG, BANGKOK + BEACH
3 nts Hong Kong, 4 nts Bangkok, 5 nts Cha-Am

STANFORD, Hong Kong: excellent medium class hotel in Kowloon. Restaurants, bar, airconditioned rooms: TV, minibar, phone, bath/shower. (Single rooms: have shower only).
ASIA, Bangkok: good medium class hotel, centrally located near Siam Square. Pool, fitness room, 24 hour coffee shop. Rooms are airconditioned with TV, radio, phone, bath and shower.
REGENT, Cha-Am: charming 1st class hotel, set on a 4 mile stretch of sandy beach. Choice of restaurants, bar, swimming pools, fitness room, tennis, squash. Shuttle bus service into Hua Hin. Rooms are airconditioned with phone, TV, radio, minibar, bath, shower and balcony.

| Departure dates: | Price: | Departure dates: | Price: |
|---|---|---|---|
| 19,26 Mar '98 | £599 | 02 Jul | £899 |
| 02 Apr | £649 | 09,23 Jul | £919 |
| 16 Apr | £619 | 13 Aug | £899 |
| 07,21 May | £499 | 03,10 Sep | £799 |
| 11 Jun | £519 | 01,22 Oct | £659 |
| 04,18 Jun | £499 | 05,12 Nov | £619 |

HONG KONG ONLY: 5 nights
10 Feb - 18 Mar £299; 19 - 31 Mar £339

The price includes: Scheduled flights/Heathrow. UK Dept tax: £20. 12 nts accom (no meals). Transfers. Price per person sharing twin. Not included: Local dept tax (HK): £8 approx, Thailand: £5 approx). Optional insurance: £55. Booking conditions apply.

To book, telephone: (open daily inc Sat/Sun)
☎ 01306 744300
Fax: 01306 744334
ABTA V2565X
ATOL 132

The Travel Collection, Deepdene House, Dorking, Surrey RH5 4AZ

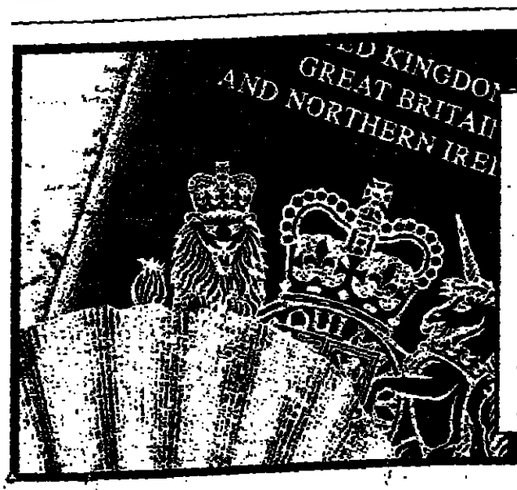
Pure NEW ZEALAND



For the best TAILOR MADE itineraries to New Zealand together with expert advice and service call, fax or write for a professional competitive written quotation and brochure

TAILOR MADE TRAVEL
18 PORT STREET · EVESHAM
WORCESTERSHIRE · WR11 6AN
We measure up to your requirements

TELEPHONE 01386 40891
NOW FOR A BROCHURE
or fax 01386 49445 or e-mail us on sales@tailor-made.co.uk or check us out on the internet http://www.tailor-made.co.uk




Bournemouth to Bangkok...

...Wherever your holiday takes you, Saga takes care of all the details, so you can have the time of your life.

Service, quality and unbeatable value are just some of the hallmarks. So, whether it's a hotel stay, coach tour or cruise, our friendly staff, carefully chosen accommodation and well-planned itineraries ensure you enjoy a well-earned break.

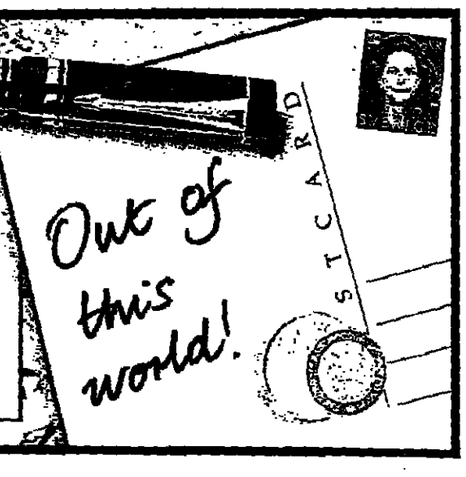
45 years of listening to comments and suggestions has taught us just what our holidaymakers expect.

That's why so many people book with us again and again!

If you are aged 50 or over, call our 24-hour brochure request line now.

FREE 0800 300 456 Quoting Reference A707

SAGA
FOR THE TIME OF YOUR LIFE



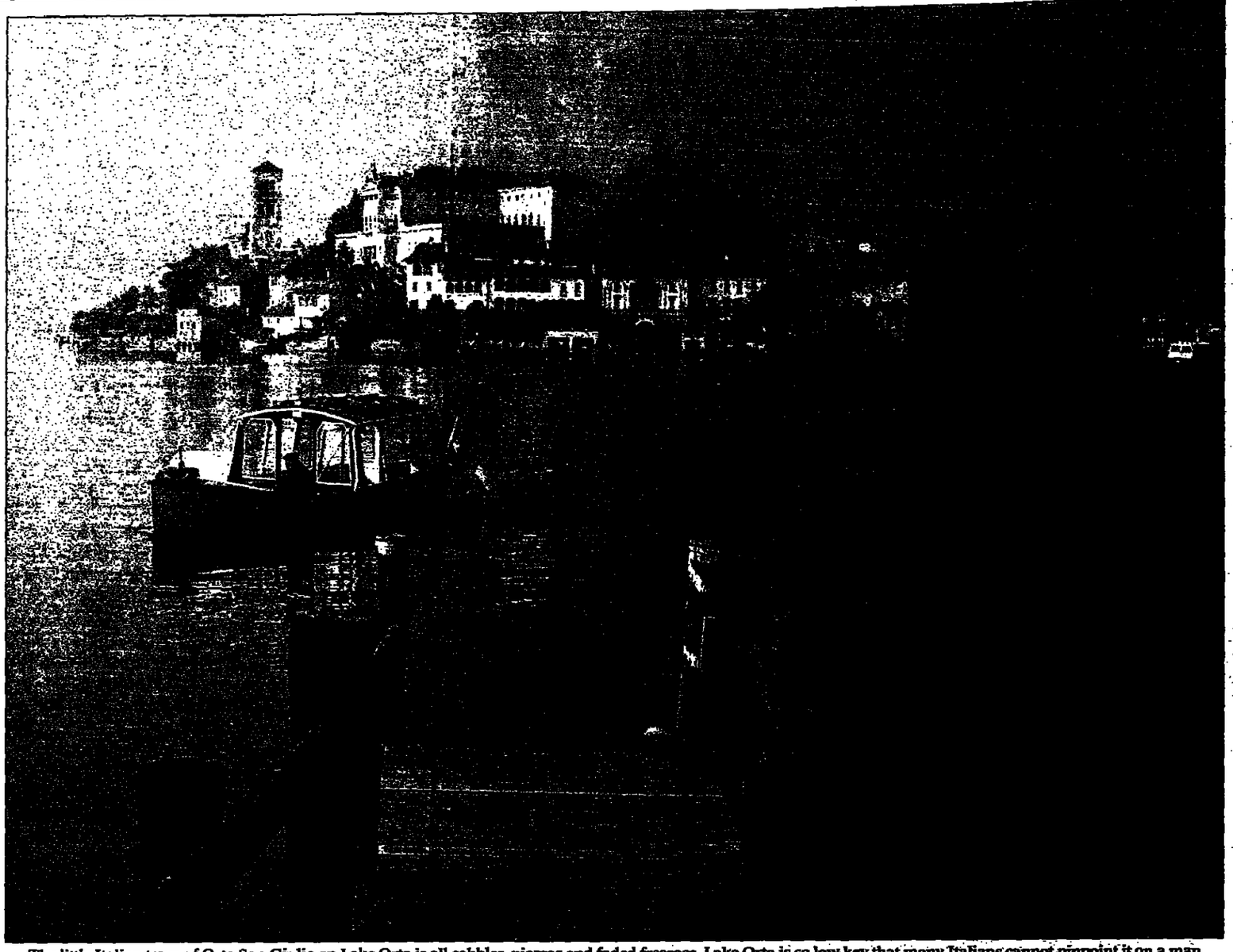
SUMMER SUN 1998: HOLIDAYS AWAY FROM THE SEA

# I don't fancy the beach this year



JILL CRAWSHAW

Cool, classy and not a skier in sight. Over three pages we guide you to great inland getaways



TONY STONE

The little Italian town of Orta San Giulio on Lake Orta is all cobbles, piazzas and faded frescoes. Lake Orta is so low-key that many Italians cannot pinpoint it on a map

**AUSTRIA**

WITH THE return to a favourable exchange rate of more than 20 schillings to the pound, tour operators who had reduced their programmes to a handful of old favourites have been scouring the Tyrol and Salzburgerland for *gemütlich* mountain and lakeside villages — even venturing as far as Carinthia's Lake District. Look out for small, pretty resorts such as Alpbach and Westendorf, Fuschl and Lake Walchsee.

A typical week's half-board with Crystal Holidays in picture-book Alpbach costs £320 for one week in May, £490 for two weeks; £475 and £600 respectively in August.

Skiers who imagine that tourism to the mountains finishes in April will see the pistes and pasture blossom with holidaymakers in summer, because as many British go in spring and summer as in winter for skiing. But with unreliable weather, hotels and resorts have developed a wide range of activities, from riding and guided walks to watersports and tennis — often free or at reduced prices.

Thomson Holidays has added special-interest options: golf, wine and schnapps tastings, painting, even farmhouse breadmaking. A five-day painting course with local artists, based at the Hotel Kristiana in Saalbach, costs from £154 to £216. A week's half-board in May at the hotel costs £339, £525 for two weeks; £425 and £649 in August.

● *Tours operators include: Crystal Holidays (01235 824324), First Choice (0990 557755), Inghams Lakes & Mountains (0181 780 4444), Page & May (0116 250 7979), Thomson Holidays (0990 502565) and Wallace Arnold (0113 263 4234).*

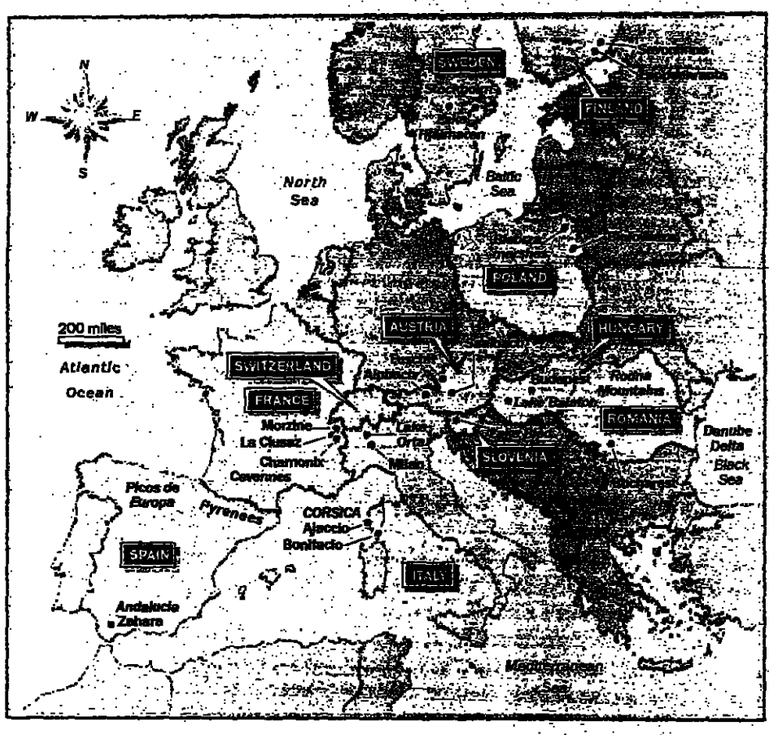
**CORSICA**

AS A sun-and-sand destination, the island just about makes it, though other Mediterranean islands have better beaches. But Corsica's strength is its stunning mountainous interior, with traditional stone villages and auberges, pine and chestnut forests, herb-scented maquis and mountain streams and pools. Ideal country for walking, fishing and riding on ancient mule tracks, with occasional forays to the coast to visit Calvi, Napoleon's dusty relics at Ajaccio or the dramatic and eccentric clifftop citadel of Bonifacio.

Small specialist firms offer hotels, auberge and cottage holidays in the interior. Simply Corsica organises independent holidays based at the stone-built coaching inn the Hotel de la Poste at Aullène, one of the highest hotels on the island and still run by the Benedetti family, who built it in the last century. Guests can stroll around the 500-year-old chestnut trees on the property, hike 2,134 metres up Monte Incudine, swim in nearby rock pools or potter around the village bars. The cost of a half-board week in May is £525, £803 for two weeks; £687 and £1,079 in August (prices include car hire).

Corsican Places offers a range of mountain activity breaks including riding, walking, canyoning and rafting as well as beach and auberge holidays.

● *Tour operators include: Corsican Places (01424 460046), Holiday Options (01444 881414), Simply Corsica (0181-747 3580), VFB (01342 240310) and Voyages Ilena (0171-924 4440).*




**EASTERN EUROPE**

THE RESORTS around Hungary's immense Lake Balaton can be slightly tacky, especially those on the southern shore. Siofok is the most developed and least attractive, Keszthely and Balatonfured, on the western and northern shores respectively, are the prettiest.

The *Puszta* or Great Plain offers a more stirring experience, with its *csikos*, the whip-cracking cowboys and csardas, the traditional inns with their more-or-less obligatory Gypsy music.

The best way to see Hungary for a first-timer is to take a tour or fly-drive. Danube Travel can organise a ten-night fly-drive itinerary with stays on the Puszta, Balaton and Budapest, including mainly half-board accommodation and car hire for £670 in early May, £770 in hot August.

Poland has huge areas of forest, lakeland and 21 national parks, the varied habitats home to moose, beaver, golden eagles, wolves and bison, as well as countless species of birds and plants.

Wildlife and adventure specialists offer interesting tours. Naturetrek has three this year, including an eight-day birdwatching trip in May visiting the Bialowieza forest and Bierbrza marshes, which are home to eight kinds of woodpeckers and such sought-after species as the great snipe, the collared flycatcher and the aquatic warbler. The tour

Continued on page 27

Deeply Relaxing



Sandy Point, Little Cayman

On Grand Cayman the powder white sand of Seven Mile Beach shelves gently into a turquoise sea. Paradise continues in Cayman Brac with its parrot reserve and unrivalled snorkelling and diving. And in Little Cayman, with a population of only 70 people, you'll think the island belongs to you.

In this friendly British Crown Colony in the Caribbean, relaxation is our way of life.

British Airways fly direct three times a week. And holidays start from only £649 for one week.

CAYMAN ISLANDS
GRAND CAYMAN · CAYMAN BRAC · LITTLE CAYMAN
0171-491 7771

Cayman Islands Department of Tourism, 6 Arlington Street, London SW1A 1RE · Telephone: 0171-491 7771 · Fax: 0171-409 7773 · e-mail:info@caymanuk.demon.co.uk

"Oh, and I just happened to be passing the radio room."

That's all the waiter said. But there was a twinkle in his eye.

I'd just mentioned to him in passing a couple of days earlier that I came from Swindon and that I was a keen follower of their football team.

I didn't think for a minute that he'd remember.

Of course, I soon found out differently. But it seems to be the same with all the crew. Anything to make our cruise that little more special. The result is an atmosphere that's — how can I best put it — intimate.

Anne totally agrees. She wants to cruise with NCL again next year.

It's a pity she's not quite so enthusiastic about football.

IATA



Share the experience

Worldwide Cruising

Norwegian Cruise Line sails to the world's most beautiful destinations including the Caribbean, Alaska, Scandinavia, Hawaii and many more.

Together with the quality, style and friendly service for which we are renowned, you have a cruise truly made in heaven.

But talk alone simply can't do the experience justice.

So instead, why not send for our free video & worldwide brochure and let the experience come closer to you?

Simply call
0800 525 483

Or complete and return the coupon below.

Tick box: Video Brochure

Name

Address

Postcode

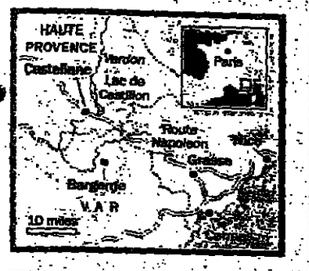
Return to: NCL, FREEPOST, Newbury, RG14 2ZZ
ATOL 1424

ANDAL

**SUMMER SUN 1998:** HOLIDAYS AWAY FROM THE SEA

# Happy campers find inspiration

**John Clarke** and family handle the hairpin bends in Provence then discover an ideal environment down by the riverside




CHANTAL CLARKE



Quality recreation time for the Clarke clan at Camp du Verdon

**FACT** FILE

- John Clarke travelled with Haven Europe (0990 233777). Prices at Camp Du Verdon in Castellane start at £185 in May (12 nights, £260) and rise to £520 (£745) for a week's camping.
- A week in an Esprit mobile home, sleeping six, in May costs £361 (£526 for 12 nights), rising to £794 (£1,149), including P&O or Le Shuttle crossing to Calais, based on two adults travelling. Children under 18 go free.
- Other camping/mobile home operators include: Canvas Holidays (01383 644000); Carisma (01923 284235); Eurocamp (0541 555055); Keycamp (0181-395 4000); Sunsites (01565 625555).
- How to get there: The site is 735 miles from Calais (approximately 13 hours driving) and Haven can suggest an overnight stop between Paris and Lyon. Rail Europe (0171-203 7000) will take a car, two adults and two children under 12 on second-class couchettes from Calais to Nice for £85 return this summer (£745 to the end of April). Prices includes breakfast.
- When to go: With children of school age, choices are obviously limited. But even at peak season, the site is less crowded and noisy than many of the sites on the coast.
- Health: Make sure the children drink plenty of liquids. Mosquitos, a hazard at many other sites, appear not to be a problem.
- Tips: On the Motorail, take food and drink with you, rather than buying the picnic meals offered at the station. On the site, ask for a list of market days at the surrounding villages and towns. They make a good day out and offer everthing from fresh produce to Johnny Halliday T-shirts.
- Guidebooks: *Rough Guide to Provence and the Côte d'Azur* (Rough Guides, £9.99); *Eyewitness Travel Guide to Provence and the Côte d'Azur* (Dorling Kindersley, £12.99).

To say it was a holiday that didn't start well, but ended gloriously, isn't quite fair. Two weeks in Haute Provence began, in fact, in the best possible way with an overnight bed on the motorail as it thundered southwards bearing myself, my family and my car towards the Mediterranean. It was when we arrived fresh in Nice that the problems began.

I didn't look at the map and my wife couldn't find her glasses. As a result, in a desperate bid to head northwards for Castellane we spent 30 minutes getting lost round the back streets of Nice before heading off in the wrong direction. Adding a few more miles to the journey in one of the most scenic parts of France would not have been too bad had it not involved driving around a hairpin bend every 200 yards. By the time we had reached Grasse and, our right road, the *Route Napoléon*, our three-year-old had been sick twice and the other two boys were a whiter shade of pale.

When we reached our campsite on the banks of the Verdon river, we thought our troubles were over. Well, almost. It was now the turn of our 11-year-old son to be sick — so strongly and so constantly that the help of a French doctor was called for. I suppose that parents should get inured to their children's illnesses. But I have to admit that visions of an emergency flight from Nice airport flitted briefly through my mind.

As it turned out, he was merely suffering from a stomach bug and severe dehydration. The cure for the first was a form of medication my son found so embarrassing to take that he begged me not to mention it; and for the second, small sips of Coke to be taken every ten minutes.

Happily, both did their job and by the next day our son was back to his normal self and we were able, at last, to start enjoying ourselves.

A campsite away from the sea might seem a perverse choice for a holiday during a hot summer. But it didn't stop the Camp du Verdon hanging out its "no vacancies" sign for every day of the two weeks we were there. And as settings go, this one was a little special. Surrounded by pine-clad mountains, it was within walking distance of Castellane.

Now, some guidebooks dismiss this pretty town as simply a tourist trap with not much to see. But if a tourist trap consists of a spacious town square surrounded by shops and cafés, all with a stunning view of the rock, complete with a chapel on the summit that dominates the town, then I'm all for them. Overcrowding was never much of a problem and the benefits of having a town with a good weekly market on your doorstep outweighed the disadvantages.

Everyone visits the chapel in Castellane dedicated to our Lady of the Rock. Well, I say everyone, and that included our energetic neighbours from Lancashire who conquered the summit on their first day and enjoyed the views that the 20- to 30-minute climb offers. I did intend to scale the peak, but it was either too hot, too early, too late or just not that easy with a three-year-old in tow. At least that was my excuse.

Mountains of a different kind could be scaled by car a few miles away. Bargème, at 3,589ft the highest inhabited village in the Var region, is a *Village Médiéval* of a more-than-inviting kind. Originally built so high for purely defensive purposes, the buildings have tended to become part of the rock they were built on, so that it becomes difficult to see where the rock stops and the houses begin.

On the blazing hot day we were there the streets were deserted and the ruined abbey cradling the village impossibly picturesque. My children, though, were more impressed by the village's vine-clad café offering cheeses, wine, cold drinks and ice-cream. In England, similar attractions would be surrounded by coaches, postcard shops and doughnut stalls. Here, in the height of the summer, it was just us and one other family and a perfect afternoon.

Not that the French were altogether perfect. For those missing the sea, the biggest local attraction is the Lac de Castillon, a few miles out of Castellane. It's a wonderfully clean lake, with sandy beaches, sun beds and pedaloes.

However, one essential this great hive of activity does lack is a toilet. As a result, it was possible to see people furtively wander off to the bushes, some of which appeared to be adorned with something resembling confetti, although I didn't make a closer inspection. A few kilometres to the west begins one the region's major attractions, the Gorge du Verdon, France's answer to the Grand Canyon, with waterfalls, dizzying views and corkscrew roads. Then again, you could always steep yourself in the delights of the campsite. You wouldn't gain many insights into French culture, but you would learn a lot about the Dutch, the Germans and the Danish.

You would, for instance, realise that Dutch karaoke is perhaps an art form best appreciated in its native surroundings, and that when it comes to games of *boule*, the Germans are as determined as their football players.

But for family holidays, a campsite manages to inspire not only the sense of adventure, but also a sense of safety. And if that sounds a contradiction, it is because the sites, while offering children the chance to roam or cycle around at will, also provides them with a protected and safe enviroment.

"Courts and camps are the only places to learn the world in," said Lord Chesterfield. I've no experience of the former, but I would hope that as a family, we have gained some knowledge from our on-site experiences.



ASPECT

Gorge du Verdon, regarded as France's answer to the Grand Canyon, boasts spectacular waterfalls and breathtaking views

**Continued from page 26**

costs £895 for flight, full-board accommodation and guided walks with experts.

Exodus Travel offers historic and natural highlights of Hungary, Poland and Slovakia on 14-day bus tours. Summer departures cost £795 for flights, accommodation and some meals.

Romania's painted monasteries, village crafts and folklore are the focus of Explore Worldwide's ten-day tour of the Rodna mountains in the far north and the Carpathians, and also visits Bucharest and the reedy lakes and wetlands of the Danube delta. Nine departures from May to September cost from £920-£960, including flights, guesthouse accommodation, some meals and local bus, train and boat travel.

● *Tour operators include: Balkan Holidays (0500 245165), Danube Travel (0171-493 0263), Explore Worldwide (01252 319448); Exodus Travels (0181 675 5550), Fregata Travel (0171-451 7066), Naturetrek (01962 733051) and Regent Holidays (0117-921 1711).*

## FRANCE

WHILE THE Cevennes and the Pyrenees have a strong appeal for walkers, the French Alps have also found a niche in the family holiday market. In Morzine and Chamonix in Haute Savoie, for example, family specialist Sun Esprit's programme offers nurseries with British nannies for babies, and activity clubs for older children, allowing parents enough freedom to try canoeing and fishing, hang-gliding and riding, mountain biking, rafting and walking.

At Morzine, an old-fashioned market town, the holidays are based at the Pension Les Gourmets, where adults pay from £462 for two weeks on June 14 (the first departure), rising to £546 in August. Children under two cost £116 and children under 18 get a 50 per cent reduction. Prices include Channel crossing, four meals and barbecues with wine (and three nights' babysitting).

VFB Holidays will keep energetic families fit and breathless on its less structured "France Active" programme centred on Samoëns, Morzine, Les Deux-Alpes and La Clusaz, where holidaymakers have a choice of self-catering apartments, chalets or hotels. Summer tobogganing, white-water swimming, canoeing and other activities are available. There's a free children's club for six to 12-year-olds. Prices are per family (two adults and two children under 14), with self-catering apartments in La Clusaz in early July costing £662 for two weeks rising to £938 in August, including the ferry crossing.

● *Tour operators include: Headwater Holidays (01606 813333), Sun Esprit (01252 616789) and VFB Holidays (01242 240332).*

## ITALIAN LAKES

MOST Italian lakes need little introduction: delightful in spring and autumn but seething in high season.

Lake Orta, 50 miles northwest of Milan and 15 or so from Lago Maggiore, is so unfamiliar that even many Italians cannot place it on a map. Its shores are lined with meadows and orchards, along with terracotta-roofed farms and villas, dwarfed by the mountains behind. There's plenty of interest for potterers — an operatic little town called Orta San Giulio, all cobbles, piazzas and faded frescoes, and above it the Sacro Monte, a series of 16th and 17th-century chapels celebrating the life of St Francis of Assisi.

Lakes and Mountains Holidays offer self-catering holidays three miles from the town of Orta San Giulio, a one-bedroom apartment costing £450 per person per week, £700 for two weeks in May, £490 and £779 respectively in

**Continued on page 28**

Scene and not Herd



The grandeur of Namibia's Fish River Canyon is one of Africa's greatest natural wonders - hundreds of millions of years old. Here, peaceful isolation is undisturbed. Throughout the day the scene is a kaleidoscope of natural changing colour, much like the contrasts of the landscapes of Namibia herself. One of the largest and most undisturbed countries in Africa, yet with less than two people per square kilometre. The spirit of freedom is overwhelming.

Namibia

Africa's Greatest Natural Canvas

For more information call 0171 636 2924/2928
Namibia Tourism 6 Chandos Street, London W1M 0LQ

ANDALUCIA MAGNIFICA

visiting Granada, Baeza, Ubeda, Cordoba, Seville, Jerez de la Frontera, Ronda & Gibraltar

So profound has been the sights and sounds of Andalucia its imagery has been summed up as a cliché for anything Spanish, yet Andalucia is in many ways completely different from any other part of Spain, be it in the attitude to life of its people or its culture which owes more to its 'Gitano' Flemish roots as in Flamenco and Moorish ancestry than it does to Spain proper. There is a vibrancy and a lust for living which is apparent in the music and pursuits of its peoples, be it horsemanship, the Zapateado dance, or the flamenco guitar. The Andalous live in and against a magnificent scenery of rolling countryside, mountain peaks of the Sierras, and plains that stretch as far as the eye can see with white walled houses glistening against a brilliant light. The Moorish and Catholic influences can been seen wherever you go - the Moorish Alcazar cheek by jowl with the Catholic Cathedral in Seville, the Mezquita in Cordoba, the Alhambra and Generalife Gardens at Granada, contrasted with the sedate almost British of the old school in Jerez de la Frontera, and the dramatic hillside towns such as Ronda which owes its appearance from a more recent history.

7 nights from £595



ITINERARY IN BRIEF

Day 1 Depart Gatwick for Malaga with GB Airways, drive to Granada for 2 nights. Day 2 Exploration of Granada. Day 3 Visit Baeza and Ubeda, continue to Cordoba. Day 4 Travel across the Andalucian hinterland to Seville. Stay two nights. Day 5 Exploration of Seville. Day 6 Drive to Jerez de la Frontera. Day 7 Travel via Ronda to Gibraltar for the night. Day 8 Fly to Gatwick.

DEPARTURE DATES & PRICES

1998 Sundays - per person in a twin

March 8 £595 - March 22 £605
April 5, 19 £660 - May 10, 24 £660
Sept 6, 13, 20, 27 £685 - Oct 4, 11, 18, 25 £685
Single room supplement £195

Price includes: transportation throughout, room and breakfast at 4-star hotels for 7 nights, services of knowledgeable guides, excursions as indicated, UK departure tax. Not included: overseas airport taxes, insurance, tips. All prices subject to change. Our current Conditions of Booking (available on request) shall apply to all reservations.

0171-616 1000

VOYAGES JULES VERNE
21 Dorset Square, London NW1 6QG
Travel Promotions Ltd. ABTA V3681 ATOL 3838
Internet http://www.vjv.co.uk

Our offices are open Monday to Friday from 9am to 6pm and at weekends for telephone reservations from 9.00am to 5.00pm. For personal visitors our office hours are 9am to 5pm weekdays only.




HAV'A SUMMER HOLIDAY THIS WINTER.

Even as Britain shivers, the weather in Eilat is bright and hot. Where better to sizzle in the sun, from just £269 a week? Eilat is just five hours away, with flights from Luton and Gatwick.

DESTINATION RED SEA
0181 440 9900
EILAT
HAVA GREAT HOLIDAY IN ISRAEL
ATOL 3051 ABTA V0122

## SUMMER SUN 1998: HOLIDAYS AWAY FROM THE SEA

WORLD PICTURES



The Alps are ideal for paragliding in summer. Sun Esprit offers two weeks from £462 in June with free babysitting

# 'Barely the size of Wales, Slovenia has snowcapped mountains, vineyards, waterfalls, caves and lakes'

**Continued from page 27**

August, prices including flights and car hire.

In *San Giulio*, Thomson Holidays offers the Hotel San Rocco, a renovated 17th-century convent on the waterfront. The price is £625 half-board for a week in May, £1,125 for two weeks, rising to £745 and £1,269 in peak season.

● *Tour operators include: Italian Escapades (0990 437227), Lakes and Mountains Holidays (01329 844405) and Thomson Lakes & Mountains (0990 502565).*

### SCANDINAVIA

SURPRISINGLY economical holidays can be found based around the 100,000 or so lakes of one of Sweden. Simple log cabins with modern bathrooms and kitchens are dotted in forests and beside lakes.

Scandinavian Seaways has a self-drive cabin holidays — at the Herrfallet Countryside cabins set among pines beside Lake *Hjälmaren*, with canoe and bike hire available.

Prices are from £223 per adult, £166 per child in May, rising to £295 and £219 in August for a nine-night holiday. Prices, based on four people travelling, include overnight crossing from Harwich to Gothenburg in a four-berth cabin.

Scandinavian Travel Service is introducing the remote Finnish resort of Lappeenranta, amid a thousand lakes 15 miles from the Russian border. The cost of a week's B&B hotel holiday is £599 in somewhat chilly May, £842 for two weeks, and £659 and £898 respectively in August. Prices include flights.

● *Tour operators include: Color Line (Norway) (0191-296 1313), Inntravel (Norway) (01653 628811), Scandinavian Seaways (0990 333666), Scandinavian Travel Service (0171-559 6666), Scantours (0171-839 2927) and Specialised Tours (01342 712785).*

### SLOVENIA

ALTHOUGH barely the size of Wales, Slovenia's varied landscapes include sunny, snowcapped mountains and oak forests.

Hotels in the former Yugoslavia can be undistinguished, but 150 farms provide warm hospitality. Slovene cuisine and access to walking, mountain biking and riding.

Slovenija Pursuits offers four-star farmhouse holiday packages and a week's half-board in May £380, £533 for two weeks; in August £400 and £554 respectively. Transfers cost an extra £39 each way, car hire £200 per week.

● *Tour operators include: Balkan Holidays (0500 245165), Panorama Holidays (01273 206531), Phoenix Travel (0345 626468), Slovenija Pursuits (01763 852646) and Transun Travel (01865 798888).*

### SPAIN

ANDALUCIA's pueblos blancos (white towns) snuggle under the toothy peaks of the Sierras, mostly by-passed by all but minor roads and old smuggler trails. Dazzling little Zahara, Grazalema, Benalauria and Arcos de la Frontera teeter on a cliff edge with the most impossible traffic system in Europe.

Inntravel offers several types of holiday in the Sierras — independent walking trips along drovers' paths, three-night breaks or fly-drives; a week learning Spanish in Andalucia, based on Arcos, costs £589 in May, £688 in August for flights, car-hire, B&B, tuition, mountain walks and excursions.

Exodus Discovery Holidays offers an eight-day walking trip, with options for non-walkers, based in Arenas de Cabrales. The tour costs £440 in May, £740 in August for flight and B&B.

● *Tour operators include: Abercrombie & Kent (0171-730 9600), Exodus Discovery Holidays (0181-675 5550), Explore Worldwide (01252 319448), Inntravel (01653 628811), Headwater Holidays (01606 48699), Magic of Spain (0181-748 4220), Mundi Color (0171-828 6021), Sherpa Expeditions (0181-577 2717), Simply Spain (0181 995 9323) and Spain at Heart 01373 836070).*

### SWITZERLAND

THE COUNTRY that practically invented tourism is back in business now that it is (well, almost) affordable again — brochure prices are down by 10-12 per cent on last year.

Resort holidays, with Interlaken and Grindelwald perennial favourites, cost from about £350-£600 a week; £550-£900 for two weeks half-board (a better deal than B&B), with Thomson Lakes and Mountains or Crystal Holidays.

Swiss Travel Service, with nearly 30 resorts, some with free mountain bike hire and guided walks, also offers rafting and bungy jumping.

● *Tour operators include: Crystal Holidays (01235 824324), Inghams (0181-780 4444), Kuoni Travel (01306 742500), Swiss Travel Service (01992 456123) and Thomson Lakes & Mountains (0990 502565).*

### FLYING VISITS

Departures: Monday 9 February to Saturday February 14, 1998
Lowest available published fares for return travel

| Route | Promotional Fare | Flexible Fare |
|---|---|---|
| London – Amsterdam | from £58 easyJet (ex-Luton) | £195 Transavia (ex-Gatwick) |
| London – Barcelona | from £98 easyJet (ex-Luton) | from £238 Debonair (ex-Luton) |
| Birmingham – Copenhagen | £299 BA | £360 BA |
| London – Dublin | £55 Ryanair (ex-City Airport) | from £69 CityJet (ex-City Airport) |
| London – Edinburgh | from £58 easyJet (ex-Luton) | from £98 BA (ex-Heathrow/Gatwick) |
| Manchester – Munich | £109 Hapag | £608 Hapag |
| Edinburgh – Munich | £139 BA (ex-Gatwick) | £630 BA (ex-Gatwick) |
| London – New York | £199 BA (ex-Gatwick)/Hapag | £498 BA (ex-Heathrow/Gatwick) |
| London – Oporto | £99 BA (ex-Gatwick) | £458 BA (ex-Gatwick) |
| London – Paris | £99 BA (ex-Gatwick)/Hapag | £239 BA (ex-Heathrow/Gatwick) |

Airline telephone numbers
British Airways (BA) 0345 222 111; Hapag 0171 830 0011
CityJet 0345 445566; easyJet 01293 596650
Debonair 0500 146200;
easyJet 0990 292929

Notes
* Prices shown in the left-hand column are the lowest published excursion fares. Prices shown in the right-hand column are the lowest available flexible fares which do not require a Saturday night stay and which, in many cases, allow changes or cancellation without penalty. In all cases you are advised to check the restrictions, if any, when booking.
* Availability is not guaranteed.
* Fares shown do not include any applicable taxes or security fees.


YOUR HOLIDAY STARTS THE MOMENT YOU DRIVE ON BOARD

LUXURY CRUISE-FERRIES

AWARD-WINNING SERVICE

EXCELLENT RESTAURANTS

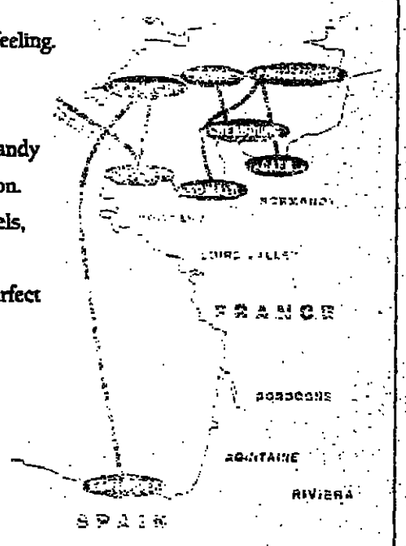
DIRECT TO BRITTANY, NORMANDY & SPAIN

IDEAL FOR ALL OF HOLIDAY FRANCE & SPAIN

HUGE CHOICE OF HOLIDAYS




Only our award-winning, luxury cruise-ferries capture that special holiday feeling.
Relax and savour the marvellous French cuisine, the stylish bars and boutiques and everywhere, Duty Free value.
Our routes take you direct to attractive holiday ports in Brittany, Normandy and Spain, with fast, modern roads leading you swiftly to your destination.
Our huge range of holidays, including Gites, Holiday Homes and Hotels, Seaside Apartments, Villas, Mobile Homes, Breaks and Golfing Holidays, together with some great value offers, give you the perfect choice of ways to enjoy Holiday France and Spain with your car.




Brittany Ferries The Holiday Fleet

BROCHURES 0990 143 537 RESERVATIONS/INFORMATION 0990 360 360 OR SEE YOUR TRAVEL AGENT

1998 Brochure range: Ferry Guide • Gite Holidays • Holiday Homes & Hotels • Luxury Camping Holidays • Golf Breaks • Hotel Breaks



from only £35 per person

The great escape



• Luxurious Lodges
• Spectacular World of Water
• Over 100 Activities
• A delightful Forest setting on the edge of the Lake District






Call now. You simply have to find out more!

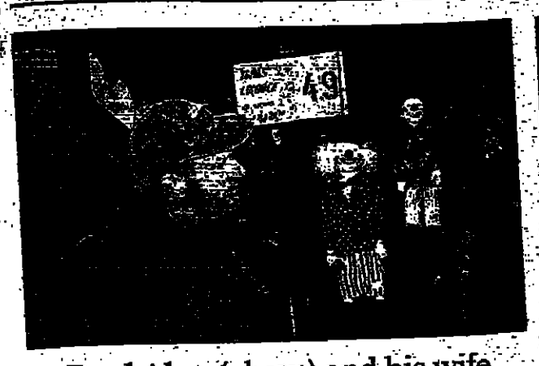
Oasis
Forest Holiday Villages

* Price quoted is based on full occupancy in a 3 bedroom Waterside Lodge, based on published brochure prices in January 1998.

CALL US NOW FOR YOUR FREE BROCHURE
0990 086 086
Quote Code TM0702 Or see your travel agent

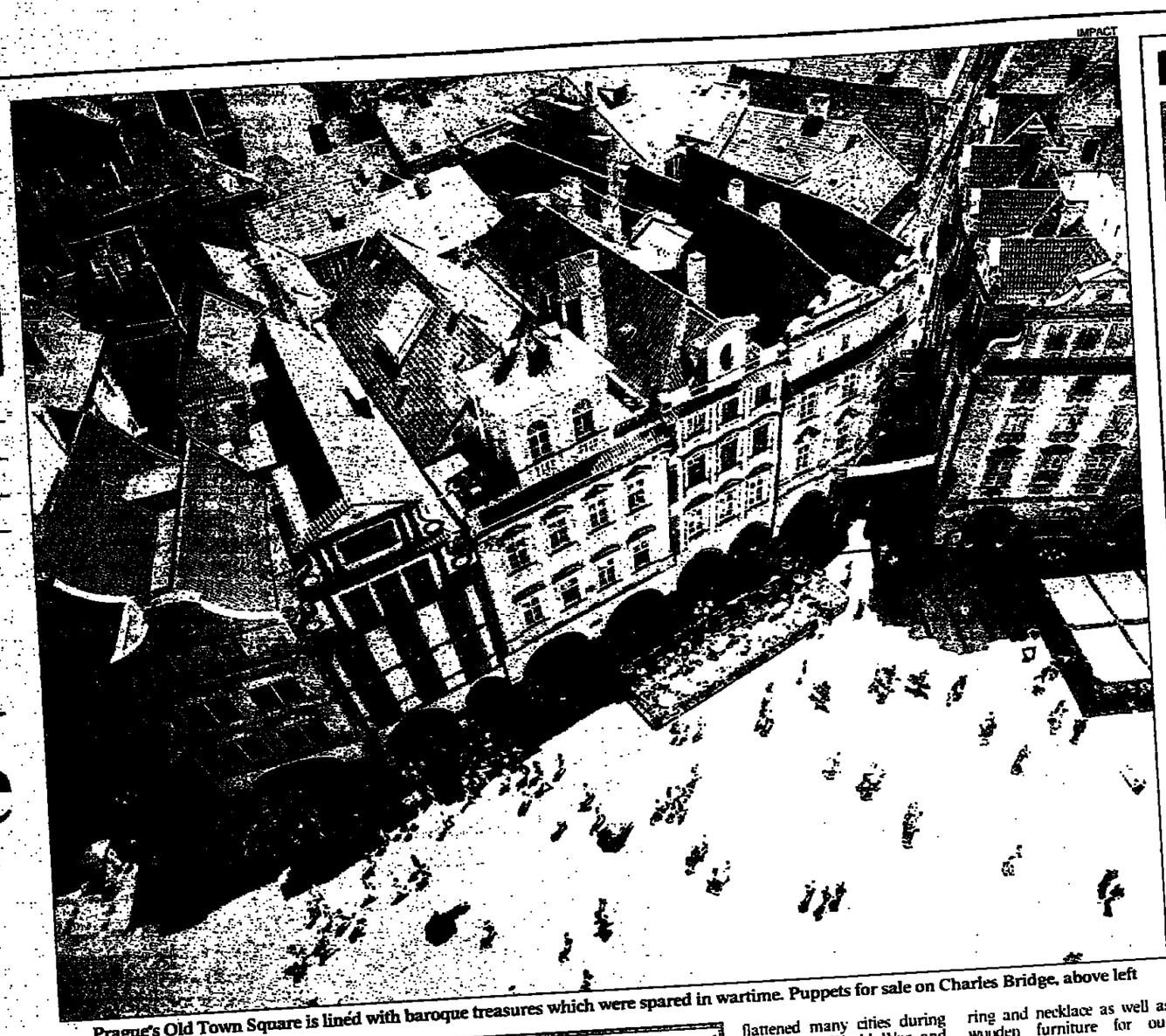
هكذا من الاصل





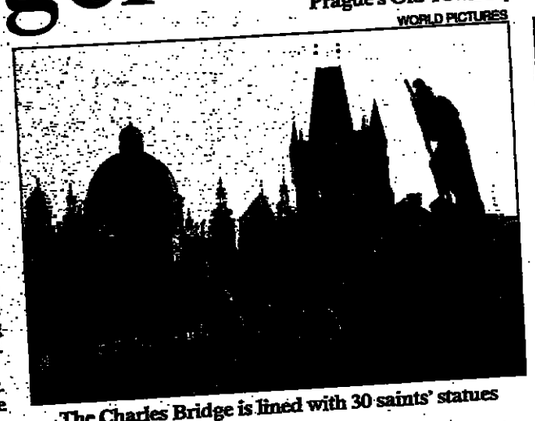
**Paul Abse** (above) and his wife enjoyed a romantic whirlwind tour of Prague just for the day – and were reluctant to come back

# If only we could stay here a bit longer



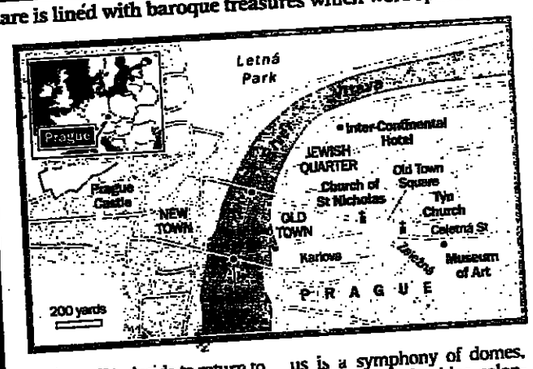
IMPACT

Prague's Old Town Square is lined with baroque treasures which were spared in wartime. Puppets for sale on Charles Bridge, above left



WORLD PICTURES

The Charles Bridge is lined with 30 saints' statues




Over breakfast on a grey Monday in December my wife, Ruth, complains that she hasn't had a break since August. A week, even a weekend, away is out of the question with our work commitments. "Surprise me," she challenged, before disappearing behind her newspaper.

So I did some phoning around and booked us on to a day trip to Prague, the capital of the Czech Republic, flying from Stansted on December 9.

**December 9**

**3.30am:** Wake up in a panic. In the pitch black I mistake 3.30 on the clock for 6.15.

**3.31am:** Back to the land of nod.

**4.30am:** Alarm goes off. My wife turns over and says she's not going.

**5.05am:** Scrape the frost off the car and depart north London for the M25 and M11.

**5.45am:** Arrive Stansted, abandon the car to the short-stay park (£9 for the day), walk 100 yards into the terminal building. Stansted is so easy.

**6am:** Return to the land of nod, slumped across seats in the terminal, while my wife trawls the shops.

**6.45am:** On board the plane, an intercom message: "If any passengers on the flight should be on the Ryanair flight to Stockholm, press the overhead button."

**6.47am:** A couple sheepishly shuffle down the gangway clutching coats to chins but not managing to conceal blushes.

**6.55am:** Hard-boiled sweets.

**7am:** Take off on time for the one hour and 40-minute flight. We discuss the day's options on the Airtours form and decide to take the free walking tour but skip the three-course lunch (£10) and the afternoon boat trip on the Vltava (£9).

**7.30am:** Bucks Fizz arrives in a plastic beaker.

**7.50am:** Aluminium omelette, sausage and hash browns plus plastic coffee.

**9.50am:** (8.50am UK time). After landing, we zip through the arrival formalities surprisingly quickly, thanks to the spanking new facilities in the terminal.

**10.20am:** Chatting with other day-trippers on the coach in glorious sunshine. Many on board are clearly old hands.

**10.25am:** Coach pulls away and Pavel, our guide, starts a potted history of Prague. Ruth, unfortunately, is asleep. Pavel's sweep is as impressive as his English — galloping from King Wenceslas and the founding of Bohemia to the birth of Czechoslovakia in 1918 and its division in 1993, before offering seminal statistics such as "the Czech Republic has the highest beer consumption per capita in the world — 160 litres per person per year".

**10.55am:** We get off the coach with the warning not to miss the return pick-up at 5.45pm.

**11am:** Pavel gathers his flock and leads us through the Jewish Quarter. As we file past the Old Cemetery, we are told that of the 56,000 Jews living in Prague before the Second World War, only 1,300 remain. Outside Europe's oldest still-practising synagogue, Pavel describes Hitler's bizarre plan to open a museum in Prague "to the lost race".

> The city is an open museum of gothic and baroque

**11.12am:** We decide to return to the Jewish Quarter on our own later.

**11.22am:** Outside the neo-Renaissance Rudolfinum concert hall (home of the Czech Philharmonic Orchestra), Pavel points out statues of famous composers on the roof. "During the Nazi occupation, soldiers were ordered to destroy the one of Mendelssohn, because he was a Jew, but they didn't know who was who, so they destroyed the one with the biggest nose... It happened to be Wagner, the Führer's favourite."

**11.32am:** Pavel shepherds us across Mánesúv Bridge and down past some of the handsome ochre-coloured riverfront mansions in the district known as the Little Quarter. We return to the eastern flank of the River Vltava via Charles Bridge, passing 30 Baroque statues of saints, as well as jazz buskers and craft sellers.

**12.20pm:** In Staroměstské náměstí, also known as Old Town Square, Pavel is talking of further baroque treasures in the Church of St Nicholas when Ruth says: "Have you noticed how few cars there are? And how quiet it is?"

I look around. Surrounding us is a symphony of domes, towers, assorted gables, colonnades, caryatids, oriel windows and studded doorways. It is an open museum of Europe's architectural high watermarks, with sublime examples of romanesque, gothic, renaissance and baroque.

Thankfully, Prague was spared the bombing raids that flattened many cities during the Second World War and decided not to sacrifice its beauty to the car.

We pass the towering twin fish-scale steeples of the Church of Our Lady before Týn, an astrological clock that has been drawing crowds on the hour for 500 years, and head into the back streets.

**12.35pm:** Lunch in Restaurant Mucha at Melantrichova 5, named after one of Prague's best-known artists. My goulash and dumplings and Ruth's beef in olives, together with a couple of beers and coffees, costs £10. The restaurant interior is a strange mix of Art Nouveau and Auntie Peg's sitting room circa 1955.

**1.20pm:** We wander the open-air craft and vegetable market on Melantrichova and browse elegant shops on Karlova and Železná. My wife wants to buy Bohemian crystal, an amber ring and necklace as well as wooden furniture for our child's doll's house.

**2pm:** On Celetná Street we visit a museum that impressed me on my previous visit in 1995, the Czech Museum of Art at the House of the Black Madonna. The Cubist mansion (Czechoslovakia was the only European country where Cubist architecture took root) houses a Cubist exhibition.

**3pm:** Ensconced at a table on the first floor Café Milena, watching the astrological clock do its thing in Old Town Square while we do ours, sipping hot chocolate and tucking into blackberry pancakes with cream.

**4.15pm:** Back in the Jewish Quarter, we find the museum and synagogue have closed, so we stroll Charles Bridge one last time.

**4.30pm:** It is dark. We stand on Charles Bridge looking up at Kafka's castle on the hill and the lights flickering on the river. Beneath saintly silhouettes on the bridge. Bohemian love songs are played on violins and gipsy guitars. This must be the most romantic spot in Europe.

**5pm:** On the western Na Kampě flank of the river, we pop into a traditional bar, U Staleté Báby, for a last beer.

**5.42pm:** Back outside the Inter-Continental Hotel. I run into Steven from Milton Keynes. "Even better than Venice ... wonderful day and great beer," he says.

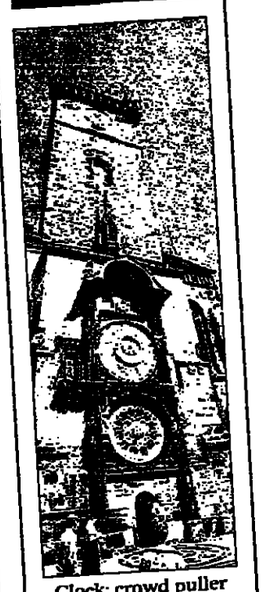
**6.20pm:** No queuing for check-in as we are issued with our return boarding passes on the outward journey.

**8.35pm** (local time): Land at Stansted five minutes early.

**8.55pm:** Phone the children to tell them we're back.

**9.30pm:** Run out of petrol on the M25.

## FACT FILE



Clock: crowd puller

■ **Flights:** Airtours (01706 260000) operates day trips to 14 European cities, including Rome, Monte Carlo, Florence, and Budapest, from 16 UK airports. Costs range from £139 to £159 (the Prague trip cost £139) plus insurance. The programme runs from October to March.

■ **Reading:** Prague city guides, Cadogan (£12.99), Everyman Guides (£16.99), Lonely Planet (£6.99) and AA Publishing (£5.99).

SPECIAL OFFERS

THERE'S NEVER BEEN A BETTER TIME TO TRAVEL...

PENANG
5 NIGHT HOLIDAY FROM
£349
16 FEB – 31 MAR

BALI
5 NIGHT HOLIDAY FROM
£499
16 FEB – 30 MAR

BANGKOK
5 NIGHT HOLIDAY FROM
£449
23 APR – 15 JUN

HONG KONG & BALI
7 NIGHT HOLIDAY FROM
£529
22 FEB – 30 APR

BANGKOK & PHUKET
8 NIGHT HOLIDAY FROM
£539
23 APR – 15 JUN

KUONI

CALL US ON
01306 747005
Office Hrs: Mon-Fri: 8am-8pm, Sat: 9am-5pm, Sun: 10am-4pm or see your local travel agent

OTHER DURATIONS ALSO AVAILABLE

Price per person in a twin includes: Return flights, accommodation for number of nights stated, return transfers and UK departure tax. Booking conditions apply. Not included: Optional insurance (£35)/local departure tax.

Voted "Britain's Best Longhaul Tour Operator" for 16 consecutive years. ABTA [illegible] ATOL [illegible]

1998 BROCHURE OUT NOW!!!
POLAND
CZECH REP
RUSSIA
HUNGARY
ROMANIA
EASTERN EUROPE
BULGARIA
CROATIA
BALTICS
AUSTRIA
GERMANY
0171 451 7066

AUSTRIA
8 Day Holidays to the spectacular Zillertal Valley in the Tyrol. Half board - no night travel
£129
New Millennium Holidays
Brochure: 0121 711 4917

Cruise to
Tristan da Cunha

A once-a-year opportunity

Cruise from Cape Town aboard the 7,000 ton luxury cargo liner, RMS St. Helena, on its annual voyage to the beautiful South Atlantic island of Tristan da Cunha.

- 17-day return voyage in January 1999.
- Fly from Heathrow, Thursday January 14th, return Heathrow, Sunday 31st January 1999.
- Four-star, air-conditioned stabilised luxury (Berlitz Guide, 1997).

There are a few cabins remaining for this rare opportunity to make a landfall at one of the most remote islands in the world.
Return fares from £2,621.
Call or write now for our new brochures and begin the experience of a lifetime.

Tel: 01326 211466
Fax: 01326 212808
RMS St. Helena
ATOL 1320 ABTA 20845
TT7/2

ARCTIC ODYSSEY

A 12 NIGHT EXPEDITION CRUISE
FROM SPITSBERGEN TO GREENLAND & ICELAND
ABOARD THE MV PROFESSOR MULTANOVSKY

*23rd August to 5th September 1998*

This extraordinary Arctic exploration voyage begins in Spitsbergen, just a few hundred miles from the North Pole and takes us to the magnificent and rarely visited coast of East Greenland.

Visitors to this, the largest island in the world, usually confine their exploration to the south or western coasts where there are a number of settlements, airports and even the odd hotel. Very few venture to the rugged east coast which, apart from the far north, is the least accessible, has a tiny population and some of the finest, awe-inspiring Arctic scenery.

This is a voyage which constantly induces the travellers to use such terms as 'spectacular' and 'magnificent' to describe the larger than life sights and experiences that are encountered on a daily basis in this beautiful and isolated region.

Leaving Spitsbergen, we will skirt the edge of the Polar ice-cap to land as far north on the East Greenland coast as the ice will allow. The density and position of the ice varies from year to year, but we hope to make a landfall at Foster Bugt which will involve sailing through some pack ice. If the ice is too thick we will make for a position further to the south.

We will then sail down the coastline to the Scoresby Sund, watching the continual calving of icebergs of all shapes and sizes and exploring the dramatic chain of islands which is one of the richest wildlife areas in all Greenland. We will see seals, whales, dolphins, musk oxen, a multitude of seabirds and hopefully polar bear.

Leaving Greenland we sail across the Denmark Strait to Iceland to board our flight back to the UK.



All passenger accommodation has outside views and you can choose between a two berth cabin with shower and toilet or a two bedded cabin with shared facilities.

Public areas include a lounge/bar with library, single sitting dining room, clinic, sauna and an 'open' bridge where passengers are free to visit at most times.

The hearty and excellent meals are supervised by European staff.

Looking after the day to day programme on board will be the expedition leader and the team. There will be no formal entertainment, but the expedition team will organise briefings and illustrated talks. For our forays ashore we will use the vessel's Zodiac craft allowing us great flexibility.

THE ITINERARY

**Day 1 London to Spitsbergen.** Evening departure from Heathrow by Scandinavian Airlines, flying via Oslo to Longyearbyen.

**Day 2 Spitsbergen.** Arrive after midnight and drive to the *Multanovsky* and embark. Spend the day exploring the city of Longyearbyen, visit the Svalbard Museum and the Gallery of Svalbard. Sail in the evening.

**Day 3 At sea.** Crossing the Greenland Sea. Watch for great whales and blue-phase fulmers.

**Day 4 Greenland.** In the late afternoon as we approach the pack-ice of East Greenland there is a good chance of seeing several species of seal, polar bears, ivory gulls and migrating Brunnich's guillemots.

**Days 5-13** During the next nine days we hope to achieve the following:

**Myggebugten.** Land in this area of extensive tundra which, in the first half of this century, was frequented by Norwegian trappers hunting polar bears. We hope to see musk oxen and possibly wolves.

**Kaiser Franz Josephs Fjord.** A magnificent fjord with towering mountains on both sides, in the inner reaches, huge icebergs calve. There is also a chance of spotting the rare narwhal here. We plan to land near Blomsterbugt, an area of strange geological shapes.

**On Traill Ø** or near **Antarcticahavn** there will be opportunities for organised walks in the tundra to appreciate the autumnal colours.

**Scoresby Sound Fjord.** The largest fjord in the world. We will make a visit to the village of **Scoresbysund** (**Ittoqqortoormiit**), a settlement with about 500 inhabitants who survive by hunting. We sail deep into the fjord seeing vast glacier fronts up close and in many places we will see barnacle and pink-footed geese gathering for their southbound migration, also look out for Arctic foxes. We will attempt to sail around **Milne Land** and visit **Sydkap** with its well preserved remains of an early Eskimo settlement. At the southern entrance of the fjord we will explore the valleys of **Jameson Land.**

South of Scoresby Sound we will visit **Stewart Ø** which has remains of an old Eskimo settlement. This area is excellent for seeing polar bears and narwhals and time permitting we will also make a landing on the **Blosseville** coast.

Leaving Greenland's icy mountains we sail for Iceland, arriving in the evening at Keflavik near Reykjavik.

**Day 14 Reykjavik to London Heathrow.** Early morning departure with Scandinavian Airlines via Oslo.

**Prices range from £2850 per person in twin bedded cabin and from £3760 in a twin bedded cabin for sole use.**

**Price includes:** Economy class air travel, 13 nights aboard the Professor *Multanovsky* on full board, shore excursions, entrance fees, transfers, landing fees, port taxes, expedition staff, UK departure tax.
**Not included:** Travel insurance, airport taxes, gratuities.

FOR FURTHER DETAILS

Please telephone 0171-409 0376
(7 days a week during office hours)

*PROFESSOR MULTANOVSKY*

Built in Finland for the former Soviet Union's programme of polar and oceanographic research, she has been refurbished for expeditionary travel. The *Multanovsky* is a comfortable and well equipped vessel, accommodating a maximum of 48 passengers.

NOBLE CALEDONIA LIMITED

11 CHARLES STREET, MAYFAIR, LONDON W1X 8LE
TELEPHONE 0171-409 0376 FACSIMILE 0171-409 0834
24 HOUR BROCHURE ANSWERPHONE 0171-355 1424
ATOL 3108 ABTA V321x

SKI WEEKEND: SWITZERLAND

# First resort for the top people



DOUG SAGER

*The Times* ski correspondent arrives in Zermatt a sceptic but leaves as a convert

The car-free streets of Zermatt were filled with slush. As I skidded past the yellow arches of McDonald's loaded down with luggage, a horse and carriage sent me scurrying for cover, leaving me feeling as inconsequential and fearful for my life as any Dickensian street sweeper.

I could have taken an electric taxi from the train station. There are 280 such vehicles which career so recklessly through Zermatt's narrow lanes that radar traps have been set up to enforce the official speed limit of 20kph. But I wanted to arrive, as Edward Whymper did in 1865 when he conquered the Matterhorn, on foot. And in addition to my ski bags, I was carrying a grudge.

For years I have read gratuitously glowing, cravenly uncritical reports about Zermatt. Such accounts only served to persuade me that it is the last resort for snobs and non-skiers. So I experienced some satisfaction when I learnt that Zermatt's premier hotel, the five-star Mont Cervin, was temporarily closed due to a fire in the grill room and that I had been transferred to second-best, the four-star Monte Rosa.

Nor was I disappointed to be told that a proposed helicopter skiing jaunt, much acclaimed by sybaritic chroniclers of Zermatt high life, was off. "There's not enough snow, and anyway it's not 'the season'," was the explanation.

January in Zermatt is a joy, for that reason. "None of the 'good skiers' come before February," the man in the ski shop told me in a straight-faced putdown. This means the slopes and lifts and even the where-the-elite-meet-to-eat mountain restaurants are all uncrowded.

The clientele is also younger and livelier. "Yes, we do get a lot of snowboarders in Zermatt," said Amade Perrig, resort director. He is not keen on snowboarders with "attitude", but he would not accept my characterisation of Zermatt as an overpriced enclave for the over-aged and undersexed, either.

Zermatt is a study in the history and science of Alpine tourism. It is arguably the most successful resort — winter and summer — in the world. In an era when St Moritz, Verbier and Crans Montana, Switzerland's classiest resorts, have been losing overnight stays, Zermatt has not.

Seven different lift companies, each with its own piste patrols and marketing strategies, must be co-ordinated. Last year Zermatt initiated a joint lift pass scheme with Cervinia, on the Italian side of the Matterhorn. This piste-enhancing, cross-border programme seems to be a resounding success, despite posting by far the most expensive ticket price in the Alps — £150 for a six-day pass.

Zermatt today can accommodate a maximum of 13,000 guests. Zoning regulations allow for this figure to double, although Herr Perrig insists that Zermatt will never suffer the "uncontrolled sprawl" which has ruined Crans Montana and Verbier, two Swiss resorts he cites frequently as examples of where tourism authorities have got it badly wrong.

Certainly, Zermatt's visitors seem to feel Herr Perrig and the burghers have done all anyone can do to refine an area graced by the natural wonder of the Matterhorn and 35 other peaks more than 4,000m high. Artificial snow-making now guarantees piste skiing in the worst of winters. Even in the poor conditions experienced throughout the Alps in mid-January, I was able to ski all the way down into Zermatt village, from both the Klein Matterhorn and the Sunegga sectors, on solid snow cover.

Accosting fellow travellers in the cog-wheel carriages of the Gornergrat train, hailing sober-suited revellers across the tables of Elsie's Champagne Bar, and introducing myself to scantily clad dancers after their stint gyrating up on the showcase barrel in Broken, I found few complaints.

"The nightlife is fantastic, but a round of drinks just set me back £100," a man with many friends shouted over The Prodigy in Broken.

The difficulty of getting around Zermatt by bus and the outrageous prices charged by electric taxis are the focus of most criticism, although several skiers also express dissatisfaction with the ski school.

"They act as if you are a stack of Swiss francs, not a person," one middle-aged woman complained.

It is almost impossible to ask anyone about Zermatt without getting an earful of the Matterhorn. One venerable gentleman riding the Gornergrat said: "I came here 20 years ago on my honeymoon — and every one of my wives has fallen in love with the Matterhorn," he cackled triumphantly.

No one need pack an alarm clock at the Monte Rosa. Zermatt's church bells begin a thunderous clamour at precisely 7:45am. Apparently, this is a signal for *Times* readers to rush out to the newspaper shops, because my own excursions at 9am on two successive mornings found all four shops in the vicinity sold out.

The Monte Rosa, Zermatt's oldest hotel, is a sophisticated retreat which welcomes rough customers. The carpeted stone floors wander unevenly like a mountainscape and guests are expected, rather than forbidden as in most resort hotels, to wear their skiboots in the hallways and lobby.

If the Monte Rosa sets you up to fall for Zermatt, and the Matterhorn at midnight has you moonstruck, it is the marmots in the church square which put the boot in. For millions of Zermatt lovers around the world, these ten bronze sculpted mountain rats are an adored emblem of the charm and romance they find nowhere else.

I admit to a soft spot for the marmots, especially when the snow is falling soft and silent at 2:30am on the way home from Elsie's Champagne Bar. But what about the snobs and non-skiers? I did not come across anyone, tourist or Zermatter, who was not open and friendly. But then, it was not the "season".

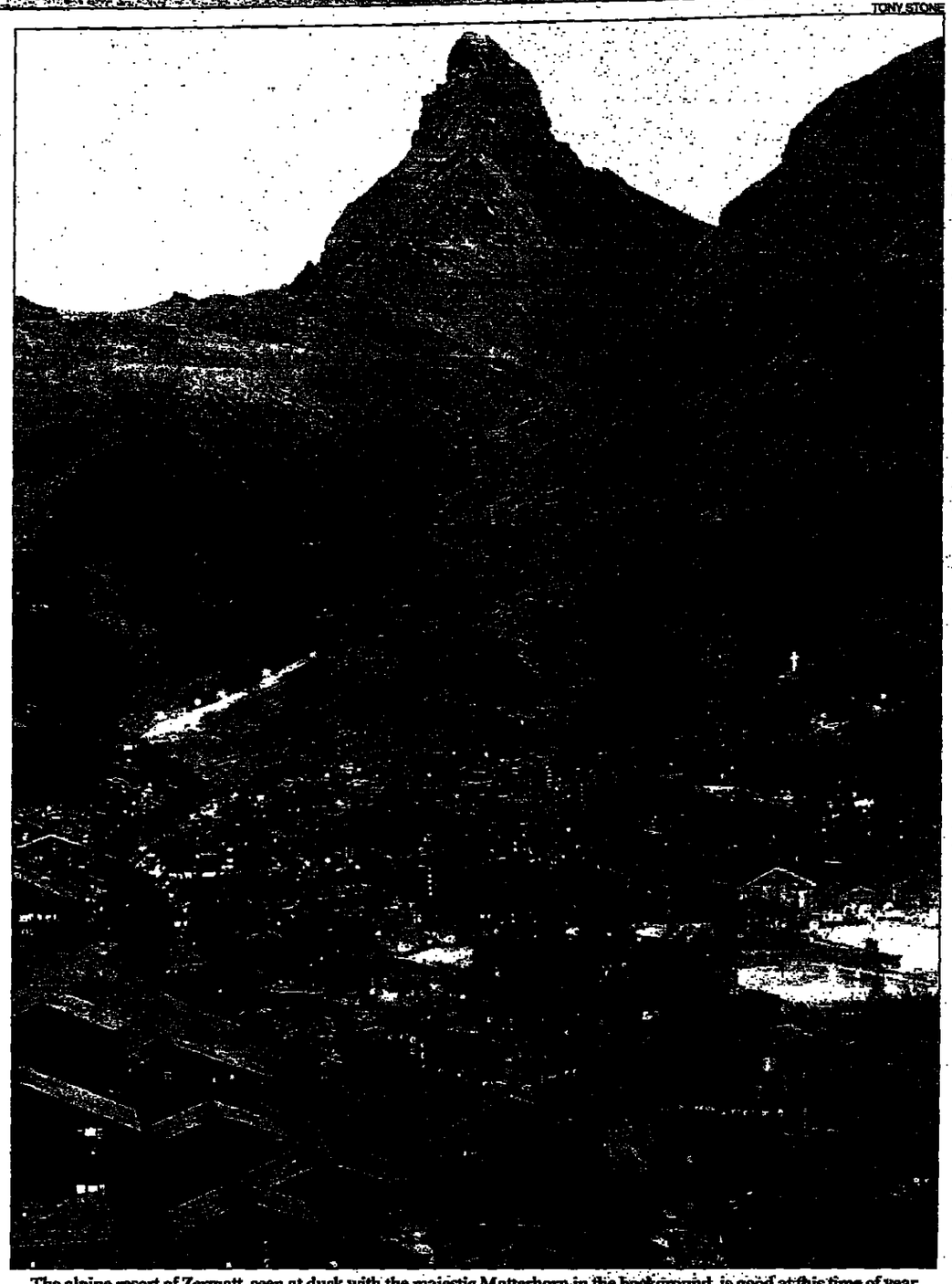
The only incident of ill-temper I witnessed was instigated by a New Zealander, a resort-authorised photographer, who had blocked off a good piste section while snapping tourists with his real-life prop, a St Bernard dog.

Spying a skier taking a photograph of the scene, an unedifying shouting match ensued, much decorated with expletives concerning copyright issues. The St Bernard never blinked, the Matterhorn remained unmoved.

I retain my objections to Zermatt's skiing. The sectors are too far apart and too poorly connected. Many pistes are narrow and icy, especially homeward runs which skiers of all levels are required to share. The off-piste options do not come close to a dozen other resorts I could name and many of the groomed pistes are even more boring than those in Courchevel. Instead of a grudge, however, I now have a good feeling about Zermatt.

I found rustic charm among the old wooden barns, with their signs begging donations of stale bread for the cows. I found an urban air of animation in the main street, unique in the Alps. And although I could neither afford it or abide it, you have to admire a souvenir music box that costs more than £1,700, no matter how kitsch it is.

TONY STONE



The alpine resort of Zermatt, seen at dusk with the majestic Matterhorn in the background, is good at this time of year

SCOTTISH ISLAND HOLIDAYS
Car touring holidays with ferries to Western Isles, Mull, Skye, Shetland, Orkney, etc: hotels & guest houses.

SCOTLAND BY CAR
20 country hotels ideal for short breaks & summer holidays. Superb food; excellent value from one night or more.

SCOTTISH COUNTRY COTTAGES
Quality self catering cottages in beautiful country areas. TV, linen, electricity included. Short breaks & summer weeks.

For colour brochure please call 0141 762 0838 SCOTSELL

Cruisebreaks from £59

To Germany, Denmark, Sweden or Holland.

To request a Short Breaks brochure call 0990 333 666. Quote ref 78396. Or write to Scandinavian Seaways, Dept 78396, PO Box 643, Bristol BS99 1UU.

Name
Address
Postcode

SCANDINAVIAN SEAWAYS

Take a short break to Holland, Sweden, Denmark or Germany from Harwich or Newcastle. An on board experience to rival many cruise liners. From £59pp. A berth in an air-conditioned en suite cabin, night club, cinemas, bars and restaurants, the famous Smörgåsbord buffet and an exciting foreign city visit.

When you find Rosa's home grown figs on your doorstep breakfast tastes that much sweeter.

Rosa frequently enjoys sharing her home grown figs with her guests at La Casarella, perched high on the hillside on the edge of Ravello. It's a thoughtful gesture, and typical of those memorable experiences that make a holiday with The Magic of Italy, Spain or Portugal so special. For your copy of one of our brochures featuring specially selected hotels, villas and apartments in the most beautiful locations, see your travel agent or call us on 0990 462442.
Quote ref: TCM

THE DETAILS MAKE IT Magic
Italy Spain Portugal

MR/MRS/MS SURNAME
ADDRESS
POSTCODE
Please tick which Magic brochure you require. ITALY ☐ SPAIN ☐ PORTUGAL ☐
Send to: Magic Brochure Services, FREEPOST NWW934, Upton, L49 1TS. TCM

World Offers.
Flight prices from:
Cyprus £149 rtn
Florida £299 rtn
Jersey £69 rtn
Mexico £417 rtn
TAXES INCLUDED

For thousands of World Offers call us now on:
0345 222111 Book by 18th February '98.

WORLD OFFERS
BRITISH AIRWAYS
The world's favourite airline

Fares are return from London and subject to availability and travel periods. Travel up to end March '98. Includes pre-paid taxes correct at 14 January '98. Cyprus – fare £120/tax £29. Florida – fare £254/tax £45. Jersey – fare £59/tax £10. Mexico – fare £367/tax £50. For details see ITV Teletext p.380, your travel agent, British Airways Travel Shop or book and pay at our Web site www.british-airways.com

هكذا من الاصل



# Hot springs and green tea

**As the Winter Olympic Games begin, Michael Fitzpatrick tests out the snow in the Land of the Rising Sun**

SKISHOOT-OFFSHOOT



Pisters take a break at Nagano in Japan, 80 minutes' train ride from Tokyo and venue for the Winter Olympic Games this year. Right now is the best time to visit

Since the autumn, when the last crimson leaves fell from the maple trees, Uchikawa San had been imploring the Japanese goddess of mercy to send snow. A curious request from a man who lives in the Japanese alps, but Uchikawa San is the chief of his area for the Winter Olympic Games, and all winter long it looked as if there might be no snow at all.

But now the snow has fallen in abundance and the prayers are for more tourists, particularly foreign ones, to revitalise a ski region — which is also one of Japan's most spectacular national parks — being pushed downhill by the country's economic ills.

Those foreigners who do turn out to watch the Nagano Winter Games, which start this weekend, will also have the chance to experience skiing and snowboarding, Japanese-style. One irresistible attraction is the *onsen*, the hot-water spas where you can soak away the strains of a hard day on the mountains.

Thanks to the new Asama bullet train, the site of the Olympics is now only 80 minutes away from Tokyo. Since only God and earthquakes stop bullet trains, the snow did not prevent me from being hurtled across the endless urban sprawl of the Kanto plain at 250kmh, to emerge in brilliant sunshine among the snow-dusted spruces of Nagano.

To western eyes, Nagano itself is a ramshackle mess; like any Japanese city, its charms are elusive. An hour's ride on a bus that chimed out safety warnings and commercials for local businesses brought me to the Happo ski resort — host of this year's slalom, downhill and ski jump.

A mix of alpine village, Victorian spa and funky hotel hangouts, Happo looks like a retirement park for the architecturally distressed building styles of the world.

Being a typical Japanese ski resort, however, its sheer eccentricity more than compensates for any lack of beauty. What will foreign visitors to the Olympics make of the plastic cabin called Lucy Farm — I think it's a café — the Good Space in Hakuba, the Genie gift shop and the Glad Inn?

I visited Happo before the games, and it has to be said that it was not kicking. "The place is deserted," said Swedish Olympic organiser Annett Juhkno, "because everyone thinks the Olympics means the slopes are no-go before the events". True enough, the mountain lift was working, but only a handful of skiers and snowboarders polka-dotted the slopes.

Getting on the mountain was a doddle. Most hotels and lodges rent snowboards, skis and skiwear, each setting you back about £15 for the day. About £40 buys you a pass for all lifts and gondolas in the area, or for £25 you can opt for an all-day pass that covers just a couple of runs.

A fresh snowfall had left the hills in fine form, and although the runs are short by European or American standards, there are challenges as well as gentle slopes for novices. The total lack of queuing made up for the saccharine and ever-present Japanese pop music that serenades you aboard the lift.

After a day punishing ligaments and muscles, you are ready for the restorative magic of the *onsen*, a hot thermal-spring bath. Many hotels in this area tap into the scalding volcanic waters and a few even have *rotemburo* — open-air baths surrounded by rocks and snow.




Having slowly immersed my scrubbed and naked self in a bubbling hot spa, I reached gingerly for the cold *sake* nestling in its pot in the snow. A soothing cloth is wrapped around the head and the joy is complete.

In a crowded ski village, many baths will only offer views of stout bamboo and perhaps a frail willow. But choose one further from town and you can luxuriate with views of the stars and, beneath them, the "Roof of Japan" — the mountains.

Alternatives to this form of après-ski in Japan are dismal in comparison. For most of the young, snow-frenzied crowd that delight in speed and daring during the day, evening means a bath, a meal and "Pocky time". Forced into public socialising at the office or school, the Japanese on holiday usually opt for a quiet sharing of snacks around a low table in their rooms — the favoured nibble being a chocolate stick called Pocky.

Two bemused Austrians, over to build their country's Olympic press stand, were stoic about the lack of evening frivolity. However, they considered the skiing excellent, if a little challenging.

Visitors from the French resort of Méribel pronounced the slopes of Hakuba as more than sound, if a little short. When they gently teased a boyish ski instructor about the possibilities of amorous conquests on the slopes, he looked aghast and explained that as a *sensei*, teacher, he had to be beyond reproach.

Evening meals were marvellous, but breakfasts were a challenge even to the seasoned traveller. At my cedar-scented Japanese lodge, the day started with a fish that looked like a fossil, rice, miso soup and green tea. I discreetly reached for a Ceylon tea bag kept from my last encounter with a "western breakfast" and whizzed it into the hot water in my tiny tea bowl.

But I had vowed to shake off western ways for a while and immerse myself in other traditions. For that I would have to escape "Happy Town" Hakuba and head deeper into the mountains.

So I decided to head for an area where the slopes are covered with the stuff for four months of the year: Japan's most northerly island, a former Olympic venue and home to some of the best powder snow in the world.

Sapporo, a 90-minute flight from Tokyo, was a frontier town a century ago during the Japanese colonisation of this archipelago.

That pioneering spirit has not entirely disappeared: the Sapporoites are bolder than their Tokyo counterparts, and their many excellent restaurants and bars mean that you are not reduced to nibbling Pocky bars.

And with the ski slopes only an hour or two away by car or bus, the city makes an excellent base to enjoy a couple of days skiing and onsen-ing. The modern city itself is no ode to beauty, with neon bright enough to give a tan, but it is small enough to explore on foot and get acquainted with the real Japan.

The strength of the pound against the yen meant I could feed myself daily on rice and crab meat or salmon roe and other ricey combinations for less than a fiver. Such dishes can be found at the central fish market, where the air is filled with the smell of kerosene burners, seaweed, green tea and the sound of fishwives' cries.

In search of the legendary Hokkaido powder snow I took a bus up to the Niseko resort which promised hills covered in a snow soufflé and the all-important rotemburos. Both were abundant — the powder a delight for novices such as myself as well as for the more experienced.

Although it was the weekend, the slopes were hardly more crowded than at Nagano, and there were many foreign white faces — unusual this far from the main island.

Back in town, Pat, a barman from New Zealand, explained that many foreigners who come here fall in love with the snow and then the city. So they stay on, staffing bars, teaching English, skiing and snowboarding. "The powder you get here is weird stuff," says Pat. "It comes down big and soft. It could be lying there for a week and your foot still goes straight through it."

February, he says, is the best time for snow sports, though, of course, the transport is worse then: "We are very fond of our powder snow here, especially us snowboarders.

"I shouldn't really tell you this, but we'd be perfectly happy if its fame never spread to the western world."

Too late, Pat, too late.

## JAPAN FACTS

■ Michael Fitzpatrick travelled with Virgin Atlantic Airlines and JAL Story.

■ Getting there: Virgin Atlantic (01293 747 747) flies London to Tokyo daily. Return fares from £1,053 plus £20 departure tax. London to Tokyo minimum stay seven days, maximum three months.

■ Trips from London to Sapporo via Tokyo can be arranged through JAL subsidiary Creative Tours (0171-495 1775). Flights cost from £768 plus £20 UK departure tax. Visitors can purchase a JAL Story Ski Tours package locally in Japan.

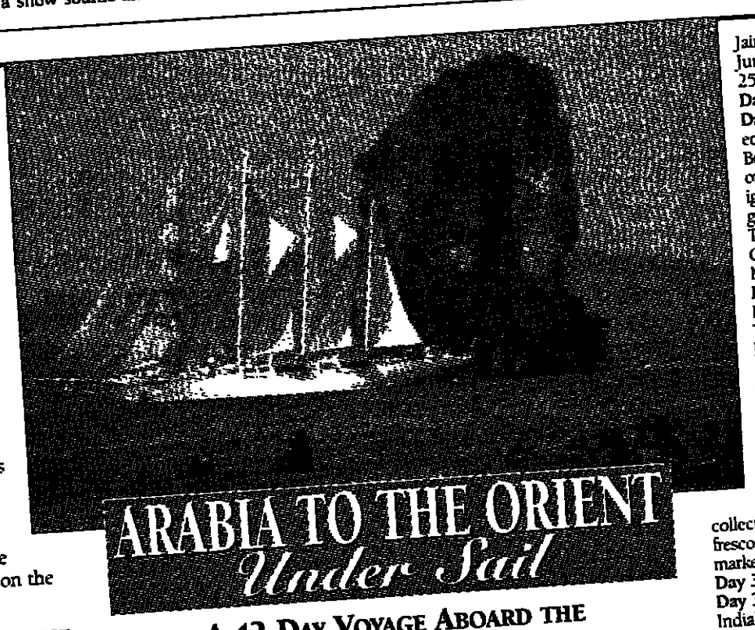
■ Nagano is about 80 minutes away from Tokyo Station by the Asama bullet train. Return fares are about £76 (15,940 yen). Or buy a Japan rail pass before you go for about £135.

■ Japan National Tourist Organisation (0171-734 9638) has a list of Nagano accommodation.

■ JAL Story trips to Hokkaido ski resorts can be arranged while in Tokyo through Beltop Travel (00 81 3321 6555, fax 00 81 3321 3775). Prices from £232 if travelling as part of a couple for three days and two nights in a five-star hotel; £256 if travelling alone. Bigger discounts for groups of more than 20.

■ Web page: *http://www.beltop.com*

■ When to go: for optimal snow conditions, February and the first three weeks of March is the best period to visit.

ARABIA TO THE ORIENT
*Under Sail*

A 42 DAY VOYAGE ABOARD THE SAILING SHIP - STAR FLYER
*3rd October to 15th November 1998*

We will slip our moorings in the Jordanian port of Aqaba and head out into the Red Sea. Our extraordinary voyage will take us through Arabia and past the Horn of Africa into the Indian Ocean bound for the Indian sub-Continent and the kingdom of Thailand.

Much of our journey will be under sail as we navigate the criss-cross dhow trade routes in the Red Sea and Arabian Gulf and follow the Indian Coastline from the Gujarat to Kerala and across to Sri Lanka. We will then cross the Bay of Bengal stopping at the beautiful Thai, Similan Islands before reaching our final destination the island of Phuket.

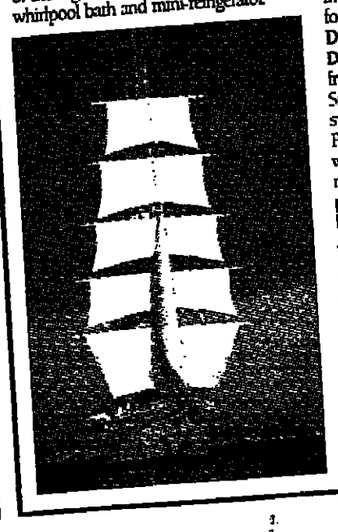
**AN UNCOMMON EXPERIENCE**

36,000 square feet of canvas unfurl above you as the Star Clipper sailing ship *Star Flyer* sets sail to some of the most wonderful places on earth. Be one of the privileged few to experience the elation which sailors have experienced through the ages as the wind fills the sails and the vessel skims across the ocean to her next port of call. *Star Flyer* offers a unique experience, employing her own sails when suitable conditions apply, yet having the benefit of engine power when hitting the doldrums.

Clearly the *Star Flyer* is not a cruise ship in the accepted sense of the word. Although you will find all the amenities one would expect of a vessel of this size, you will not find the usual endless entertainments and diversions which typify most modern day cruise vessels. In its place you will discover a blissfully relaxed and quiet life, with an atmosphere more akin to a private yacht.

With a maximum of 170 passengers, the complement is small enough to remain relatively intimate, yet large enough to ensure an interesting mix of travellers and nationalities. There is plenty of deck space on board and facilities include two swimming pools, library and a lounge-bar.

The well planned cabins all include private shower and toilet, twin or double beds, radio and most have a TV. Some of the higher category cabins also have a whirlpool bath and mini-refrigerator.






**THE ITINERARY**

**Day 1 London Heathrow to Amman.** Depart by Royal Jordanian Airlines scheduled flight for Amman and connect with a short flight to Aqaba. Drive to your hotel for an overnight stay.
**Day 2 Aqaba.** Morning excursion of Aqaba including the medieval fort, before embarking *Star Flyer* and sailing during lunch.
**Days 3-6 At sea.**
**Day 7 Hodeida (YEMEN).** Arrive in the late morning and enjoy an afternoon in this bustling Red Sea port famous for it's markets.
**Days 8-11 At sea.**
**Day 12 Salalah (OMAN).** Benefiting from the Indian Summer Monsoon, Salalah in Southern Oman is a surprisingly lush corner of the Arabian Peninsula. Brilliant white beaches give way to palms and towering mountains. It is also one of the few places in the world where frankincense trees can grow, and in ancient times this brought the area it's economic power.
**Days 13-15 At sea.**
**Day 16 Muscat (OMAN).** The Sultanate of Oman was settled some 5000 years ago and was a busy caravan and sea trade centre as early as 2000 BC. See the winding streets of the old quarter, the Sultan's Palace and the twin forts which guard the harbour. There will also be the opportunity to visit two excellent museums or take a full day tour into the interior and the old capital of Nizwa.
**Day 17 At sea.**
**Day 18 Khasab (OMAN).** Usually off-limits this part of the Oman is separated from the rest of the Sultanate by the East Coast of the UAE. Little is known of the area except that it offers exceptionally striking scenery.
**Day 19 Dubai (UAE).** Long before oil transformed Arabia, Dubai was a prosperous trading centre. Here you can see the modern development, sitting side by side with old including the Creek, where dhows still moor.
**Day 20 Mussandam Peninsula.** Situated on the strategically important Straits of Hormuz we will explore this extraordinarily untouched and beautiful wilderness. It offers wonderful snorkelling opportunities and guided walks.
**Day 21 At sea.**
**Day 22 Ras al Had (OMAN).** Nearby is the town of Sur, famous for its dhow building yards. Across a narrow sound can be found the village of Ayega, an intriguing place where the boat builders live in a setting untouched by the 20th century. The area offers beautiful beaches and a lovely coastline.
**Days 23-24 At sea.**
**Day 25 Porbandar (INDIA).** We will arrive this morning in the fascinating state of Gujarat, birth place of Mahatma Gandi and scene of many of the great events of Lord Krishna's life. An excursion will be offered to the Jain pilgrimage centre of Junagadh which dates from 250 BC.
**Day 26 At sea.**
**Day 27 Bombay.** India's economic powerhouse of Bombay is a city you either love or hate. You certainly cannot ignore it! See the famous gateway to India, the Parsi Towers of Silence, the Chowpatty Beach and Crawfords Market.
**Day 28 At sea.**
**Day 29 Marmagao (OLD GOA).** Today, Goa is best known as a holiday resort and boasts of excellent hotels and beaches. Old Goa was the site of the first Christian colony in the East Indies and much remains of the Portuguese occupation.
**Day 30 Mangalore (INDIA).** Visit St Alloysious College Chapel with its magnificent collection of Biblical murals and frescoes. Also visit the colourful market and Mangalore Club.
**Day 31 At sea.**
**Day 32 Cochin (INDIA).** From here in India's exotic south you can visit the lakes and canals of Allepey's famous 'Backwaters'. In Cochin see the Jewish Quarter, the Dutch Palace and Church of St Francis, where Vasco da Gama was originally buried.
**Day 33 Trivandrum (INDIA).** Be on deck as we sail into the Kerala port of Trivandrum, a magical sight. See the Pink Mosque and Napier Museum.
**Day 34 At sea.**
**Day 35 Colombo (SRI LANKA).** Explore this bustling port or take a long, but rewarding excursion to the ancient capital of Kandy. See the magnificent 'Temple of the Tooth' the 200 year old Botanic Garden and the Elephant Orphanage.
**Days 36-40 Crossing the Bay of Bengal.**
**Day 41 Similan Islands (THAILAND).** The waters around these nine beautiful islands form a national park. Here you will find some of the best diving in the world.
**Day 42 Dam Hok Island (THAILAND).** The twin islands of Dam Hok and Dam Khwan are sited so close to each other that you can walk across the shallow waters which divide them.
**Day 43 Phuket.** Disembark after breakfast. Fly via Singapore with Singapore Airlines.
**Day 44 London Heathrow.** Morning arrival.

**Prices range from £3695 for an inside twin bedded cabin with shower and toilet to £6400 for an outside twin bedded cabin with bath, Jacuzzi and toilet.**
**Singles from £4720**

Price includes: Economy class air travel, 41 nights aboard *Star Flyer* on full board, 1 night in Aqaba including breakfast, port taxes, UK departure tax, transfers.
Not included: Travel insurance, airport tax, shore excursions, gratuities, visas.

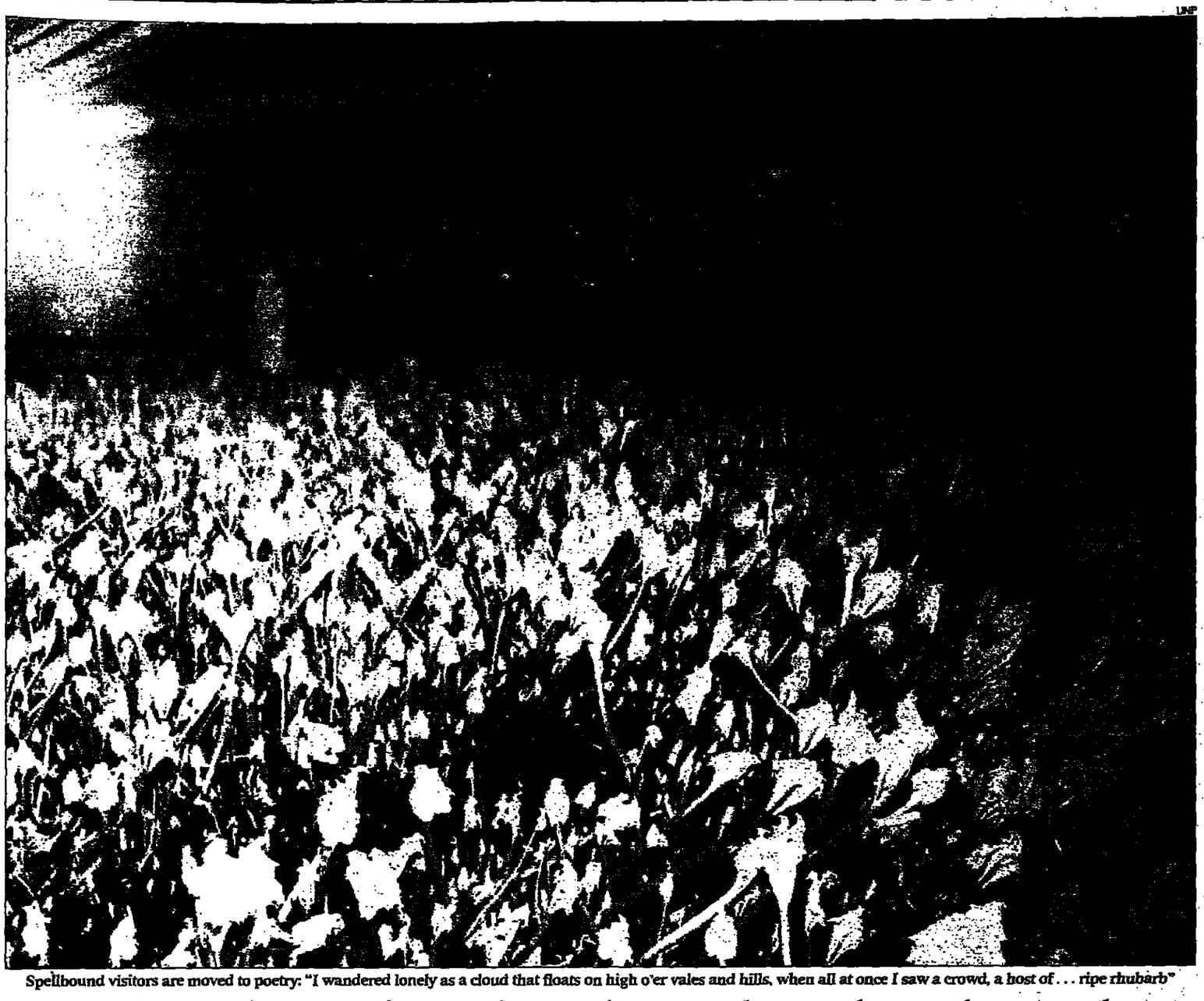
**FOR FURTHER DETAILS**
Please telephone 0171-409 0376
(7 days a week during office hours).

NOBLE CALEDONIA LIMITED
11 CHARLES STREET, MAYFAIR, LONDON W1X 8LE
TELEPHONE 0171-409 0376 FACSIMILE 0171-409 0834
24 HOUR BROCHURE ANSWERPHONE 0171-355 1424
ATOL 3108 ABTA V721X




CROATIA — A New Welcome. An Old Friend

FOR GENERAL ENQUIRIES CALL 0181 563 2792 OR CONTACT CROATIAN NATIONAL TOURISM OFFICE AT 2, THE LANCHESTERS, 162-164 FULHAM PALACE ROAD LONDON W6 9ER. FAX: 0181 563 2616.



Spellbound visitors are moved to poetry: "I wandered lonely as a cloud that floats on high o'er vales and hills, when all at once I saw a crowd, a host of . . . ripe rhubarb"

# Rhubarb rhubarb rhubarb

**Red stalks at sunset and crumble in the kitchen. Wakefield is rightly proud of its reputation as a rhubarb world power, as Stephen McClarence discovers**

We are about to reach the climax of the Wakefield Rhubarb Trail. Janet Oldroyd-Hulme picks up her torch, pulls back a plastic curtain and whispers: "Let's enter the secret world of the Rhubarb Triangle."

As secrets go, this one is spectacular. A forest of red stalks with frilly yellow leaves stretches in all directions. Ten thousand square feet of them. We are just north of Wakefield in West Yorkshire, in the village of Carlton — the world centre of rhubarb.

Past the Methodist church, turn right at the working men's club, splash across a muddy yard, and here is E. Oldroyd and Sons — rhubarb growers since 1934, award winners in the National Rhubarb Championships and exporters to Switzerland and Saudi Arabia.

Oldroyds is the star attraction of the Rhubarb Trail, launched by Wakefield Council's enterprising tourism department. With the slogan "Wakefield Talks Rhubarb" — much agonised over in the council chamber — it regularly pulls in hundreds of enthusiasts from all over Britain.

Today, most have come from Wiltshire and Suffolk. And Mrs Daphne Johnson, from Bromley, is having a weekend break in Wakefield on the strength of the rhubarb.

"It sounds rather odd on the face of it," admits Mrs Johnson, adjusting her rucksack. "But I'm very interested in horticulture and the history of these old industries. And it's — well — *different*."

Rhubarb was first imported to Britain along the Silk Road from China; in the 17th century, it sold at three times the price of opium. The trail is a coup for Wakefield tourism officer Philippa Ventom. "I thought it would be popular," she says, "but I didn't think it would take off like this. People are standing up and being counted as closet rhubarb fans."

> 'If you're a friend to rhubarb, it will be a friend to you'

She has a party from the East Yorkshire Women's Institute booked for later in the week. And on this soggy Saturday morning, 116 people are pulling on their wellingtons to explore the Rhubarb Triangle before a three-course "themed rhubarb lunch".

The triangle is a purgatively potent area between Wakefield, Leeds and Morley, where growing conditions are ideal. Between Christmas and Easter, the triangle harvests nine-tenths of the world's forced rhubarb — "the champagne of rhubarb", according to connoisseurs, rhubarb artificially brought on in sheds before growing season.

"The rhubarb trains used to leave Wakefield nightly," says Janet Oldroyd-Hulme, great-granddaughter of Oldroyds' founder and resplendent in black nail varnish. "There was wagon after wagon of rhubarb, destined for London and beyond into Europe."

Outside the sheds, a hand-painted sign proclaims: "Yorkshire leads the world in forced rhubarb production."

Inside, the rhubarb-pickers work by candlelight in conditions that can reduce strong men to poetry. Like a church, say some. Like a mystical cave, say others. Like a science fiction movie, eerie.

"It can be awe-inspiring," says Mrs Oldroyd-Hulme, who eats rhubarb with her breakfast cereal. "People work for hours without saying a word. It really does have a calming effect."

She urges caution: "Keep your roots vigorous. But treat it with respect. If you're a friend to rhubarb, it will be a friend to you."

The tourists nod, tuck bunches of resplendently red rhubarb under their arms and set off for Wakefield Town Hall's Clocktower Restaurant. Here, under silver chandeliers, chef Julian Burton is about to demonstrate that cooked rhubarb needn't mean just a humble crumble.

"I've used five stones of rhubarb this week," he says, "and I've done some wacky things like rhubarb and black pudding sausages and rhubarb in a spiced tikka sauce with Yorkshire pudding. As I was doing it, I was laughing away to myself."

Today, he has created rhubarb and potato soup, roast pork with a rhubarb glaze, and rhubarb and apple crumble — all agreeably sweet with an edge of spiciness.

The tourists — replete, but for how long? — trundle down the Town Hall stairs, past the National Union of Mineworkers' banner and past the gold-leafed list of mayors.

Some drive 25 miles north to Harrogate, home of Harlow Carr Gardens, home of the National Rhubarb Collection and its 150 varieties, including Seedling Piggot, Appleton's Forcing and Glaskin's Perpetual. Some people have art galleries named after them. Mr Piggot, Mr Appleton and Mr Glaskin are remembered as sticks of rhubarb.

For tourists in Wakefield, other attractions include an impressive cathedral, a lively market and a museum featuring the work of Charles Waterton, the Victorian naturalist who rode crocodiles and wrestled boa constrictors. He loved animals so much that he spent much of his life shooting and stuffing them.

Not to be missed — though you easily could — is the Gissing Centre, quietly celebrated as one of the least-visited museums in Britain (120 visitors in 1996).

Under a broad arch off one of the city's main streets, the centre celebrates the 19th-century Wakefield-born novelist George Gissing, whose work — including *New Grub Street* — explores many of the gloomier sides of life.

"We get people coming here from Japan," says Gissing Trust chairman Douglas Hallam, unlocking the door to the three-room centre — normally open only on Saturday afternoons for half the year.

Mr Hallam switches on an upbeat Gissing video and leafs through the visitors' book, counting quickly.

"You see," he says triumphantly. "We were up last year — 139 people signed the book. And remember, the thing about Gissing is that he wasn't miserable. He was just a socialist".

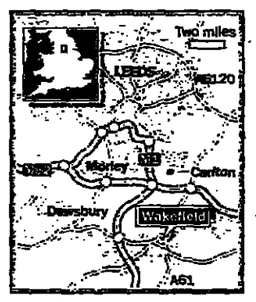
As red as rhubarb. And sometimes just as moving.

### ON THE RHUBARB TRAIL

■ **Wakefield Rhubarb Trail tour costs £10 (adults) or £7.50 (children under 12), including lunch. Call 01924 305841 for advanced bookings. Tours of the forcing houses available between late December and mid-March (depending on when the weather allows outdoor-grown rhubarb to be harvested).**

■ **Clocktower Restaurant, Wood Street, Wakefield, is open for lunch (£6 a head without drinks) Sunday to Friday, and for dinner (£15) on Fridays and Saturdays. Tel: 01924 305130.**

■ **Gissing Centre, Thompson's Yard, Westgate, Wakefield, is open on Saturdays (2pm-4.30pm) April to October. For other times, call 01924 255047. Free admission.**




■ **Wakefield area hotels (all with 01924 prefix and rates for double room) include city-centre Chasley (372111), B&B from £67.50; Waterton Park (257911), at Walton, four miles from Wakefield, b&b from £90; Cedar Court (261459), near M1 and about five miles from Wakefield, room only from £42.50; Hotel St Pierre (255596), at Newmillerdam, four miles from the town centre, room only from £39.50.**

■ **Wakefield Tourist Information Centre: 01924 305000.**

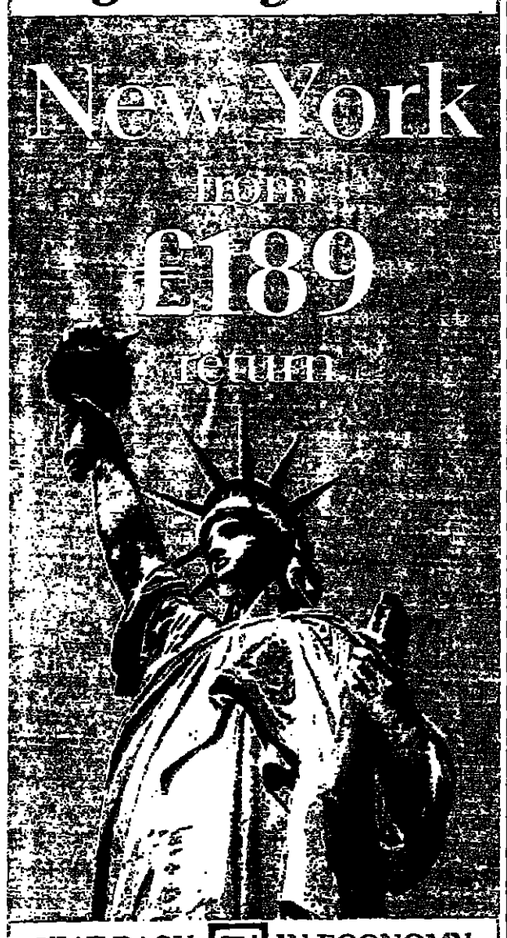
**China**

A collection of classic journeys crafted to cover scores of new and unusual destinations, including Changdu, the Silk Road, Mt Huangshan, the Yangtze River and much more. For group and independent travel in China, talk to the experts, we're at home in the Orient.

**CTS Horizons**

Tel: 0171-836 9911 Fax: 0171-836 3121

Virgin MegaSavers.




SEAT BACK TV IN ECONOMY.

For world beating offers that include all taxes, call us by 19 February on 01293 747 245. Or contact your local travel agent.

virgin atlantic

Taxes are subject to change due to currency conversion. New York fare £149 taxes £44.10. Book by 7th February 1998. Outbound travel by 31 March 1998. Limited availability. Other restrictions apply.

*The Bier Keller, Garmisch.*

**On the ninth schnapps, Franz the ski rep asks you to stay another week.**

Annual travel insurance from WorldCover includes a full 21 days' ski insurance, both on and off piste. So you're covered for those unexpected manoeuvres.

WORLD COVER DIRECT TRAVEL INSURANCE

ONE CALL AND YOU'RE COVERED

**0800 365 121**

www.worldcover.com

The schnapps ad

NCL

**Cruise *to the* Scandinavian Capitals**

25% off!

* *This summer enjoy a 12-night cruise from Dover visiting the great cities of the North including Copenhagen, St Petersburg, Stockholm and Oslo*

*from just* **£1346.*** *(normal price £1795.)*

*For a copy of the Norwegian Cruise Line brochure call into your local Lunn Poly Holiday Shop or call the Cruise Hotline on 01203 223300*

Lunn Poly
The UK's No.1 for Cruises

*The offer is subject to the purchase of Lunn Poly Holiday Care Insurance at the time of booking. Typical insurance cost is £99.95 per person. Offer subject to availability and cannot be combined with any other offer or discount. Offer applies to new bookings only. Credit Card surcharge of 1% applies. Switch and major credit cards accepted. Full details available in shops. Open Monday - Friday 9am - 7pm, Saturday 9am - 5pm, Sunday 10am - 4pm. Lunn Poly acting as an agent for NCL. ATOL 2752.*

WEEKEND TRAVEL NEWS

## Goa bids to shake off its hippy image



Goan traditions, such as diving for coins, may die out

GOA is looking to shed its *image as a favoured hang*-out destination for backpackers with upmarket hotels and theme parks, *writes Helen Whiteside.* The Goan Government says it is talking to international hotel chains including Ramada and Hilton International about developing new five-star resorts.

There are even rumours of a Disney-style theme park in the popular holiday destination on the west coast of India.

The moves follow recent laws introduced to limit the number of licences issued to owners of shacks, mini-restaurants serving cheap drinks and snacks that were seen by the Government as only attracting low-spending tourists.

U.D. Kamat, director of tourism for the Government of Goa, said: "The last plan for tourism was drawn up ten years ago when charter flights started. But the nature of tourism has changed so much in Goa since then. It is necessary to rewrite the plan for the next century.

"We are taking steps to diversify the tourist product in order to attract a high income group. By establishing at least a few tourism resorts of excellence, we can present an ideal tourism product."

Locals are upset that the plans are likely to spoil traditional ways of life as well as divert tourist cash from family-owned businesses to multi-national corporations. There have already been several clashes between shack owners and police in Calangute and Candolim.

Roland Martins, secretary of the Vigilant Goans Army Front, an association fighting for the rights of Goan citizens, estimates Goa lost 60 per cent of its visitors at Christmas, mainly to Kerala, because tourists were put off by the disputes.

He said: "I feel that the situation has already gone too far. With the Goan Government at loggerheads with the Goan people, tourists are aware of these disputes and we may now find that we have shot the goose that laid Goa's golden egg."

## Bournemouth goes raunchy



Out with the old . . .

BOURNEMOUTH Borough Council — weary of the town's reputation as a peaceful, but rather dull, *retirement resort* — has launched a raunchy marketing campaign designed to attract young, beer-swilling, party-going visitors, *writes Tom Chesshyre.*

The campaign is intended to "kick Bournemouth's bathchair and blue rinse image into touch for once and for all," says the council. It describes the town as "the party capital of the south coast . . . with more clubs than Soho" and its beach as Britain's version of *Baywatch*.

Promotional material also points out that 150,000 bottles of Budweiser are consumed in Bournemouth's clubs and bars each weekend and that its beach has been voted "the most popular for open-air sex in Britain" by Durex, the condom manufacturer.

Publicity also boasts there is a "Women's Topless Darts Competition" on the beach each August ("check it out next summer guys!") and that the town has 10,000 more women than men. Jamie Redknapp, the Liverpool footballer who once played for Bournemouth FC, has been signed up to help kick-start the campaign.

The Council — whose latest tourist guidebook includes pictures of a topless woman — stands by its decision to market the resort in such a racy manner.

Stephen Godsall, director of leisure and tourism, said: "We are trying to create a younger image without being over-aggressive and attracting lager louts. To some extent we've exaggerated Bournemouth's appeal to young people in order to counter traditional perceptions of the town."

# AROUND THE WORLD A WEEKEND GUIDE




A spaghetti-eating competition in 1948 at the Chateau Restaurant in New York, the only drawback being that the contestants were not allowed to use their hands

## It's *basta* for the pasta

LEARN about Italian cookery on weekly courses from May 9-October 18 organised by Italian Cookery Weeks (0181-208 0112) and led by Susanna Gelmetti, Italian chef and author. They take place in a restored 18th-century monastery overlooking Todi in Umbria and a 16th-century castle in Puglia, plus an inn on the Amalfi coast near Sorrento. The holidays cost £1,095 for full-board with flights, £955 without flights.

Alastair Little, Antony Worrall Thompson, Carla Tomasi and other top chefs attend cookery weeks run by Winetrails (01306 712111) in conjunction with Tasting Places (0171-229 7020). Guests learn about the specialities of each region: truffles and fungi in Tuscany, oils in Umbria, seafood in Sicily and risottos, soups and polenta in the Veneto. The accommodation is in country house hotels, 18th-century villas, converted farmhouses and a 14th-century hunting lodge. A week costs from £950-£1,300 for full board, flights are £140-£245.

The most expensive courses must be those run by Orient-Express Hotels (0181-568 8366). A spring week (April 19-25) at the Hotel Splendido in Portofino, and an autumn week (October 25-31) in Fiesole at the Villa San Michele cost £2,200 each (without air fares) — for lessons and demonstrations, vineyard and cultural visits, a gala banquet and all meals with wine.

Canvas Holidays (01383 644000) has breaks at Norcenni in Tuscany for preparing typical Tuscan food. Three half-day courses cost £48. A 14-night self-drive holiday costs from £239-£889 for two adults and up to four children, inclusive of ferry crossing and tented accommodation.

**YOU CAN cook and eat your way from Hanoi to Saigon on a Vietnam Gourmet Traveller tour with Imaginative Traveller (0181-742 8612). Dine in restaurants and local homes where you will be invited into family kitchens to learn how to cook local specialities. The 13-night tour from Hanoi, which visits the Imperial City of Hue, the islands off Nha Trang, the Mekong Delta and Saigon, costs £895 — including hotel accommodation, some meals and internal transport by mini-bus, boat and bike. Flights from the UK cost about £570.**

## TRAVEL COOKERY TIPS by Jill Crawshaw

TRAVEL JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR

## Fishing around a Spanish menu



IN April and November, Spain at Heart (01373 836070) has five-day breaks concentrating on basic Spanish recipes — gazpacho, paella, tortillas or a Catalan seafood banquet, rather than refined cuisine. Based at Las Limas, a small Andalucian country estate bordering the Los Alcornocales nature park near Jimena de la Frontera, mornings are spent buying fresh produce and then working under expert guidance to create the evening meal. The cost is £395 for the course and full-board accommodation, but not flights.

"Fun and feasting" is how Spirit of Andalucia (0171-589 2425) describes its cookery week at Gaucín from May 6-13. It is hosted by writer Elisabeth Luard with tuition in Mediterranean, Andalucian and Moroccan specialities, visits to sherry and manzanilla bodegas at Jerez and Puerto de Santa María, and snail-gathering expeditions for paella lunches in the countryside. The cost (excluding air fares) is £995.

Vegetarian cookery lessons can be combined with exploration of the Sierra Nevada with Mundi Color (0171-828 6021) in Andalucía. Three-day courses (£150) in May, June, September and October, run by a professional chef, teach you how to create dishes of fresh herbs, seaweed, vegetables and tofu, and include guided walks in the countryside. The lessons can be part of a week's self-catering holiday in Bubión, an hour and a half from Malaga. The course, accommodation, flights and car hire cost £541-£660.

**CULINARY weeks on the Côte d'Azur with practical instruction and excursions to art galleries, scent factories, ceramic workshops and boat trips, are being organised by French Chapters (0171-722 0722). The classes are hosted by the resident chef of Le Mas des Oliviers, near Cannes, and the price of £1,495 covers six-and-a-half days of lessons, excursions, food and wine but not flights. Non-cooking partners pay £1,295.**

**Inntravel (01653 628811) has Cook Around France weekends based on gastronomic inns in Normandy. You can learn the secrets of Norman cuisine and enjoy visits to oyster farms, distillers and delicatessens. Three-night self-drive breaks cost from £180-£250 to include the course, half-board accommodation and the ferry crossing.**

● *Travel articles in* The Times *since the beginning of the year are available on our Internet site. See "Most Recent" links on* http://www.the-times.co.uk

## Catey Hillier rounds up last-minute Valentine options

PACK YOUR BAGS

**The Summer House, Cornwall Terrace, Penzance, Cornwall (01736 363744).**

RECITE poems to your beloved in the Minack Theatre, an amphitheatre carved into the cliff overlooking Mount's Bay before a four-course Valentine's dinner prepared by Ciro Zaino, former restaurant manager of Mosimann's Club, London who with his wife, Linda, runs this Regency hotel 30 metres from the sea. Dinner, bed and breakfast on Saturday night costs £70 for two; dinner and two nights' B&B costs £110.

"Windswept walks on the beach and more art galleries per head of population than London are a few of the pleasures of the Land's End peninsula," enthuses Linda.

**Seland Newydd, Pwllgloyw, Powys (01874 690282).**

A COSY 17th-century beamed pub restaurant with open fires in the Brecon Beacons, where the chef/patron, Maynard Harvey, is making waves with his innovative cooking. The four-course dinner costs £24.95 which includes a glass of champagne. Following a tantalising timbale of salmon and smoked trout with a main course of red hot duck breast, smothered with honey and crushed black pepper, and lustful lemon tart for pud.

**Whitechapel Manor, South Molton, North Devon (01769 573377).**

THIS secluded 16th-century Devon manor house is on the edge of Exmoor. Chef Matt Corner will be dazzling diners with an exemplary three-course menu. The special weekend package costs £160-£175 per couple per night.

**Pennypots, Maenporth Beach, Falmouth, Cornwall TR11 5HN (01326 250251).**

KEVIN Viner, chef/patron of Michelin-starred Pennypots restaurant, offers a £30-a-head Valentine's menu featuring his house special, a parfait of dark chocolate and Grand Marnier on a lemon and white chocolate base served with black cherries and a white chocolate sorbet.

**The Old Course Hotel, Golf Resort and Spa, St Andrews, Fife KY16 9SP (01334 474371).**

ST ANDREWS offers coastal walks, sandy beaches and castle ruins, so even if you don't play golf, the Valentine's weekend package at the Old Course Hotel might appeal. For £249.50 per person the hotel offers two nights' accommodation based on two sharing a suite. This price includes a teddy bear on your loved one's pillow, a champagne breakfast in your room, dinner in the roof-top restaurant and a round of golf for half-hour's spa treatment).



It's not too late to arrange a romantic interlude

**Coombe Abbey Hotel, Brinklow Road, Binley, Coventry CV3 2AB. (01203 452406).**

WHILE what is probably the smallest dining room in the country with just two seats — The Lady Craven Room at Coombe Abbey Hotel, Warwickshire — has been booked up on the 14th for months, tables are still available for the hotel's Dangerous Liaisons candlelit Masquerade Ball. A four-course dinner and welcome drink at this plushly decorated former monastery, followed by cabaret entertainment and dancing kicks off at 7pm and costs £35 a head.


AFRICA

CAPE TOWN S/C Villa. Beautiful setting, sleeps 2-8. Nr Beach & Mountains. 01225 448388.

JOHANNESBURG North. Serviced luxury apartments, sleeps 5+, fr £560pw. Tel: 0410 277753

TAILORMADE SAFARIS
ZIMBABWE BOTSWANA NAMIBIA ZAMBIA KENYA TANZANIA & S. AFRICA
Luxurious-remote lodges. Walking, canoeing, riding and vehicle safaris with the very best guides. Superb wildlife. Adventure with comfort. Call us to create your ideal safari.
Tel:(01604) 622979 Fax: 639878
66 Palmerston Rd Northampton NN1 5EX.
AFRICA EXCLUSIVE

BALEARICS

BEAUTIFUL 17 cent manor house, Pollensa, 25 acres, sleeps 22, 11 bath, huge pool, tennis, croquet, piano. 0171 937 0727

CALA D'OR Sensenyi & Porto Petro, Majorca. Beautiful countryside villas with private pools, spas & bars. Open 7 days. Club Cala d'Or Holidays 01905 200207 (24 hrs) ABTA W4424X

CALA VINAS Luxury beachside apt, sips 5, huge pool & terrace, Sat TV. Tel: 01490 460560.

CALA VINYES Apt sips 4, 12 mls SW of Palma, directly on beach. Pool, low seas. 01923 857723.

MALLORCA Lovely & unique base in front of sea nr sandy bay & golf. Pool. Fully equip. £580/£1,200pw. 0171 638 1062

MINORCA Attractive villas / farmhouses with private pools, townhouses & hotels across the island. Open 7 days. Club Minorca Holidays on (01903) 234024 (24hrs) ABTA W4424X

MINORCA Secluded villas with pools sleep 2-10 people. From £349 pppw, inc. flight and car hire. For Sunworld Beach Villas brochure, call 0990 56 58 58.

PUERTO POLLENSA Private Selection Quality Apts/Villas. Sips 2-4-6. Tel:0121 4532433

PUERTO POLLENSA & Cala San Vicente, Majorca. Beautiful countryside villas with private pools, spas & bars. Open 7 days. Club Pollensa Holidays 01905 230128 (24hrs) ABTA W4424X

BALEARICS

MALLORCA
Porto Petro, Cala D'or.
Beautiful luxury villa.
Sleeps 6 or 10.
Owners home. Peaceful, Private, Pool, Jacuzzi, Large Terraces. BBQ Area. Sat. TV. Gym. Golf 15 mins.
Tel: 00 34 68 535171

Villas with private pools
Mallorca Pollensa Menorca
James Villa Holidays
07000 845527

CANARIES & MADEIRA

JUST LANZAROTE two villas, private and secluded pools. Many extras. All areas. www.lanzarote.demon.co.uk 01234 843843

Villas with private pools
Lanzarote & Tenerife
James Villa Holidays
07000 845527

CITY BREAKS




CITY BREAKS
NEW YORK from £369 PARIS from £125 DUBLIN from £169
Many other City and Short Breaks available.
Request a brochure on 0181 880 8118
Take a rest from the rest
ABTA V1549 ATOL 230
Sovereign

CORSICA

BUNGALOW + Apt, Pool, Sea view, Nr beach and town. Travel Isles. From £250pw. 01634 836660.

DCSL chalets of 20 hotels, apts, fly drive, car tours, direct flts. Choose your resort or the Corsican specialist. Tourisme Vacances 0171 495 6877. Fully bonded ABTA V6862 Atol 3284

VOYAGES ILENA - yes Corsica is wonderful - and we do have the widest choice of private villas, cottages and genuine hotels in lovely scenery. See our magnificent new brochure: 0800 783 9025 Atol/Abta

The Corsican Specialist
Corsican Places
Lovely villas with pools, seaside cottages, mediaeval village houses. Carefully selected hotels. Very friendly personal service.
01424 460046
www.corsica.co.uk
07000 corsica
ATOL 2847 ATOL

CARIBBEAN

ANTIGUA Lux beach villa, pool, cook, maid, incl. fly. £1,695pw. Tel/Fax: 0171 930 0935.

BARBADOS Luxury villa, Sandy Lane estate, spectacular uninterrupted sea views, 4 double bedrooms, pool, full domestic service. Available Feb/Mar 98 US $10,000pw. Apr-Oct US $7,000pw. Enquiries For further information fax 001 246 422 0021

CUBA
Tailor-made or all inclusive holidays to 3,4 & 5 star hotels/resorts from £399
Book with Confidence. Book with THE leading specialist.
Tel: 0181 891 2222

CRUISE & SAIL ABROAD

LATE SAVER OFFER
The Jason
Spring in the Med
9 days from only £495pp
(plus port tax of £40)
Departs 15 May 1998
A superb fly-cruise calling at Nice, Barcelona, Alicante, Malaga, Cadiz, The Scilly Isles and Dover.
Free coach transfers in UK included
For details and to book call Victoria Travel on 0121-445 5656

CARIBBEAN

AAAN CUBA! Interchange colour brochure. Tel 0181 681 3612 ATOL 2429

BARBADOS: West Coast poolside and beach accom. For details Tel/Fax: 00 1 246 4242180 or 0121 3542420

BARBADOS SW. Charming bse on super beach. 3 dble. Maid. Avail fr: 7/4/98 Tel: 01892 518301

BARBADOS SW. Charming bse on super beach. 3 dble. Maid. Avail fr: 7/4/98 Tel: 01892 518301

BARBADOS Superb 1 bedroom apartment, poolside bar & rest., West Coast. 01302 530662

CAYMAN ISLANDS 2 bed luxury villa, sleeps 6, on 7 mile beach. Avail for 20 nights. Contact 0171 286 9882

TOBAGO. Large family house in 2½ acres. Pool, staff, secluded panoramic location. Tel: 01647 221208, fax 01647 221410.

CYPRUS

BEACH villa, flat & studio with pools, & cottage nr sea. Paphos & Pissouri area. 01425 403839

LIMASSOL Comfortable 1 & 2 bdrm flts 250m sea, all amenities. Denise 0181 6471854

LIMASSOL Comfortable 1 & 2 bdrm flts 250m sea, all amenities. Denise 0181 6471854

BLCYPRUS Near Bellapais, Villa to rent. Lovely views. Tel / Fax:01483 764867.

CRUISE & SAIL ABROAD

Late Availability
RMS St. Helena
Cape Town - UK via St. Helena and Ascension Island
Last few berths remaining for departure Cape Town 8th April 1998, arrival Cardiff May 10th. Fly/cruise options from Heathrow or passage only
Unrepeatable offer.
Up to 20% off published fares.
Ring 01326 211466 quoting ref:

CYPRUS

KATO PAPHOS 3 bedroom town house, pool, sips 4-6, 1km from beach/nightlife. Fr. £260pw. Tel: 01873 857492

EASTERN EUROPE

SHORT BREAKS to Prague. Package fr £246 (2 nts). Also flts only, private apts, excursions at much more from the No 1 Specialists Cedok Travel 0171 839 4414 ATOL 4311

FRANCE

ANNECY Lakeside Chalet/apts with pool. Family activities. Tel 01773 853300 Fax 853311

BRITTANY Exclusive cottages, farmhouses, villas. Country Cottages in France: 01455 852235 quoting LBF416.

MOTORAIL TO FRANCE & ITALY
SPECIAL OFFERS
*FREE CAR BREAKDOWN INSURANCE
Eurotunnel Continental
FOR BROCHURE PHONE 24 HRS
OPEN TODAY
01253 595555

LOIRE VALLEY
Chateaux & Wine Tasting
From just £25 p.p.p.
Plus Burgundy, Provence, Armagnac and more
Plus FREE Overnight Stop Enroute.
For your FREE colour brochure, or your email sent or call us on
01235 824324 (24hrs)
France

FRANCE

BRITTANY Sips 12, luxury, superb hol houses, beach 300m, tel 24 hrs 0033 479564528

BRITTANY Conv. F/house B&B. 5 course dinner+Wine. 275FF p/p Req spkn. 0033 298 999592

BRITTANY Central location, beautiful cottage, built 1701. Sleeps 2. 0181 325 6975.

CHARENTE/Dordogne (Chalais). Newly furnished & fully equipped properties available all chalet in peaceful market town. Sleep 3/5, 4/6 and 8/10. Approx 1 hr Bordeaux and coast. All for rentals from £130-£300 per week. Tel/Fax 0181 771 6269 or 0033 5 4598 4427.

COTE D'AZUR Nr Valbonne (alps 14). Spectacular spacious villa. Superb 2½ acre garden, large pool. Beach 20 miles. From £1,600pw. 01189 402420

DORDOGNE much sort after period farm houses. Pet pool. Idyllic position. Wonderful views. Sips 8, 4 beds 3 baths. 8460/8976 01233 732993.

DORDOGNE. A selection of over 50 quality holiday rental properties. For our colour brochure call Simply Périgord (0033) 5 53 03 51 83 / 5 53 03 53 54543 1 Fax (0033) 5 53 03 51 83 email: simply-perigord@ille.cybercable.fr. English owned & staffed.

DORDOGNE Nr Les Eyzies, beautiful cottage with pool, sleeps 8. Comfortable Gites also available, idyllic countryside with views. 01202 762939

DORDOGNE Secluded house in 15 acres, sleeps 7, CH, 2Km fm market town, leisure centre & swimming pool. £250-450pw 01929 480702.

DORDOGNE Nr Bergerac. Beautiful restored house, private pool, sleeps 8. Nr golf from £600pw. Tel: 01932 827077

DORDOGNE/LOT. Exclusive cottages, farmhouses, villas. Country Cottages in France: 01455 852235 quoting LBF417.

DORDOGNE Family house sleeps 8 with pool. Superb hilltop position in unspoilted rural setting. 01453 832956

DORDOGNE Half hour St Emilion Cottage 3 twin bdrms, 2 acres garden, CH, TV, 10mi Spring tennis Tel: 0171 221 0029

DORDOGNE lovely 18C manor house &/or cottage, priv pool, sleeps 8/or 16. Tel: 0171 221 0029

GASCONY Attractive secluded farmhouse, spectacular views, 14km Toulouse, pool, sips 7. From £250pw. 01264 860221

GRIMAUD Charming village house with roof terrace, sips 6, easy reach St Tropez and good beaches. 01235 868208

IDYLLIC WATERMILL Central France, own river swimming, sips 8-10. 0181 9402395.

LOT/DORDOGNE Superb farmhouse Sleeps 2-8, lovely cottage sleeps 2-4. Private pool. Tel: 00335534099805 (English)

MEDITERRANEAN PYRENEES Self-catering mountain & coastal properties, many with pools. Breathtaking countryside. Tel: 0171 284 1295 or www.countryvacations.co.uk Country Cousins Abroad Ltd.

FRANCE NORD
Holiday Homes & Gites de France Cottages
Pas-de-Calais, Picardy, Loire Valley, Brittany, Normandy, Paris, Ile de France
FREE Brochure from: 77 Bantock Cres, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands B74 2LA
0121 353 5457

S.W. FRANCE
VILLAS & COTTAGES
many with pools.
Enjoy fine beaches and beautiful countryside.
FRANCOPHILE HOLIDAYS
BROCHURE TEL 24hr
01594 31860

Allez France
Villas & Cottages
• FREE en route hotel
• Coast & country
• Many with pools
BROCHURE FREEPHONE
0500 303130
Quote BRS8-T
AITO ABTA ATOL

PIERRE & VACANCES
FRANCE en famille
The best in self drive, self catering family fun
■ Great choice of friendly, fun filled holiday Villages
■ The most popular areas - beach, coast or country
■ Swimming, water sports, Children's Club, tennis, golf, mountain bikes, horseriding.
FREE COLOUR BROCHURE
01606 734 413
Pierre et Vacances, Freepost (CW946), PO Box 81, Middlewich CW10 0ZB

NORMANDY
Gites de France cottages
☐ Self-catering
☐ Choice of 120
☐ Best locations
Normandie Vacances
01922 725705

The Best of France
• Top châteaux hotels
• Other exclusive hotels
• Ferry, Shuttle, Fly-drive
Tailor-made holidays
More than an ordinary holiday
Unicorn Holidays
01582 83 4400

Villas, Cottages & Farmhouses
The finest selection in France
FREE colour brochure
01455 852 235
QUOTING DRF407
Country Cottages in France

Chez Nous '98
SAVE MONEY - BOOK DIRECT!
2000 PRIVATE OWNERS ADVERTISE
Chateaux • Villas & Farm Houses, many with pools • Cottages • Studios • Apartments • Family Hotels • Mobile Homes • Bed & Breakfasts • City Breaks
All regions of France.
Free 316 pg Colour Brochure
Tel: 01484 682503
http://www.cheznous.com

MOBILES/TENTS on peaceful riverside sites. SW France. Pool, Restaurant Early Season offers. Book Direct. 0033 549 297346 www.mallecomm.fr/campingchef

NATURISM 7 Centres, camp or rent accomodation. France4 Narbonne 01737 557115

NORMANDY Charming old village house nr Bayeux, fine views, ½ hr sea, garden, Sips 6/7 fr £200pw. 01460 76161.

NORMANDY Exclusive cottages, farmhouses, villas. Country Cottages in France: 01456 852235 quoting LRF418.

FRANCE
A superior choice of traditional French holiday properties.
FREE COLOUR BROCHURE
RING (0990) 143681
QUOTE REF: F267
VACANCES EN CAMPAGNE

BOATING in FRANCE
South of France, Camargue, Burgundy, Petite Saône, Saône, Loire, Alsace-Lorraine, Maine-Anjou. Free colour brochure.
Phone 01502 502 604
Quest K3060
HOSEASONS

Allez France
Super Sites
Mobile Homes
• Top Coastal Sites
• W. Coast & Med
• Low Prices
PHONE FREE FOR BROCHURE ON
0500 404140
Quote SS98-T
AITO ABTA ATOL

INDIVIDUAL TRAVELLERS
FRANCE
800 traditional French homes from £500 (per property) for two weeks self-catering, including sea crossing.
FREE COLOUR BROCHURE
RING (0990) 143681
QUOTE REF: F856

EuroSites
Continental Campsite Holidays
price match guarantee
The difference refunded if you find the same holiday at a lower price elsewhere
CALL NOW ON
0990 134 748
quoting ref. code 9STV
OR SEE YOUR LOCAL TRAVEL AGENT

PORT GRIMAUD 2 bed flat, waterside terrace and mooring, inc small boat. 0171 4358380

PROVENCE Magnificent Farmhouse. Idyllic. Superb own pl. 7 bdrm, sips 14. Nr. Arles, lake, Gorges, 1 hr Med. Avail May to Oct, except Aug. Fr £600pw. Tel/Fax Brochure. MME. Degremont (English speaking): 0033-494807300.

PROVENCE nr Cereste. Spectacular secluded villa (sips 8). Extensive grdns. Hvd pool. Stunning views. £900-£2,680pw. Open all year 01189 402630.

PROVENCE Luberon, 2 bed, stone cottage, magnificent new. living/ dining room, lge garden. Tel: 0033 490 084335 (eves).

PROVENCE Half an hour Aix, 5 mins Med beach, lovely restored house, sips 7/8. Fr £300pw. 00 33 442403551.

PROVENCE Seillans, architect's hse, stunning views, pool, sips 6/7. Tel/Fax 01772 783262.

SOUTH of France. 2 new gites in ancient chapel. Historic hilltop village. Amazing view. Sleeps 4/6. Near hills, beach, river. Eng spoken. Tel:0033 467906602 Fax:0033 467905135

ST. TROPEZ 10 kms. 3 bed villa with pool from £325pw. Also pottery courses & golf breaks. Tel/Fax: 0033 494 43 73 52

ST TROPEZ 4 miles, villa for 4, double garage, shared pools. £475 pw. Tel: 01732 461626.

ST TROPEZ 18km Country house pool, lge grds, sips up to 8. July/Aug £1,500pw. 0171 352 9753.

TOURAINE Vacances. Lovely Loire cottages 01634 832230 www.touraine-vacances.com

SW, nr Cognac, spacious stone house, 4 dble bed, beautiful 3 acre grds and orchard, pool. Avail Jul-Sep. 0181 749 5806

VAR/PROVENCE, Seillanes, much loved large old village hse, with grds & pool, terrasse & views. Sips. 12+. 3 baths. Maid. Avail April/Sept. 0033 4 9476 8609 Fax: 0033 4 9476 8409.

GERMANY

GERMANY Daily low cost flights and hotel accom. All major cities. German Travel Centre 0181 429 2900. ABTA 90685 ATOL 2977. IATA 1AA0044.

GREECE

CRETE. Skinitos, Skopelos. Personalised Villa holidays, Free car hire, selected dates. Tel 01689 877938 ATOL 2679.

CRETE S/C, sips 6, pool. Beautiful, rural yet close to beach & shops £85pppw.01243 814369

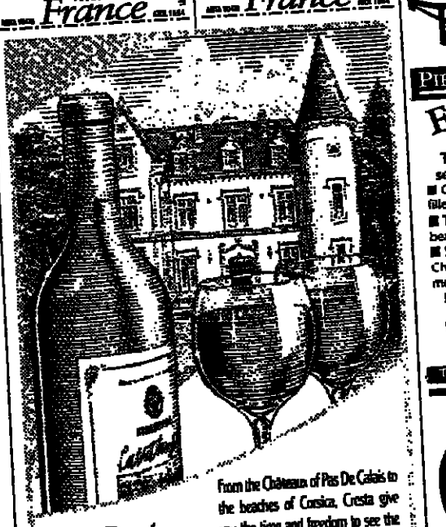
IONIAN Island hopping on lovely skippered yacht. Sailing, swimming & terraneau. 0411 140452.

LEFKADA. A new inspiring Ionian island. We are a small operator, offering only the highest quality, exclusive accommodation. From luxury villas with pool to waterfront apartments. Two Travel Industry Awards in 1997. Brochure tel: 01580 765000. ABTA AITO ATOL.

Which UNSPOILT GREEK ISLAND
LIPSI The wilder shores of Greece. Unspoilt. Remote, lovely quiet uncrowded beaches. Unique.
TILOS Remote, tranquil, serene. The island where time stands still.
KALYMNOS The Sponge Fishers Island. Very friendly & Greek.
LEROS Gentle rolling hills. Secluded bays, sparkling seas.
HALKI Discover the magical charm of a peaceful & totally unspoilt island.
SYMI Undiscovered, unspoilt. Unbelievably beautiful. For lovers.
ALONISSOS Idyllic harbourside setting. Quiet secluded beaches.
SPETSES Pine clad secluded bays, azure seas. Cosmopolitan.
SKOPELOS Stunning verdant scenery, good beaches. Friendly, fun
IT'S ALL IN OUR AMAZINGLY HONEST BROCHURE 01629 824 881
LASKARINA
AITO Holidays
The Specialist Tour Operators to Greece.

25% off

From Bordeaux to Châteaux, we're the only way to go.



From the Châteaux of Pas De Calais to the beaches of Corsica, Cresta give you the time and freedom to see the regions of France other breaks don't reach. Add the opportunity to travel when and how you please, plus hand-picked hotels, châteaux and apartments and you have everything to create a break that's totally unique. For your Cresta France brochure, call 0990 56 18 14 today.
CRESTA


£1346.

CHECK-IN




This Easter you can fly to Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide, Brisbane or Cairns and on to two extra destinations within Australia for just £798 return. And you can also stop off in Asia there and back. Fly out on Qantas or British Airways between 1st March and 15th April. Offer closes 15th February - so you'd better leap for the phone.

Phone **0345 747 300**

QANTAS THE SPIRIT OF AUSTRALIA

Call Qantas on 0345 747 300 or see your local travel agent.
Subject to day of week restrictions and availability. Cancellation charges apply. Passenger taxes included.

World Offers.

Flight prices from:

Paris £75 rtn

Rome £145 rtn

Venice £155 rtn

TAXES INCLUDED

For thousands of World Offers call us now on:

**0345 222111**

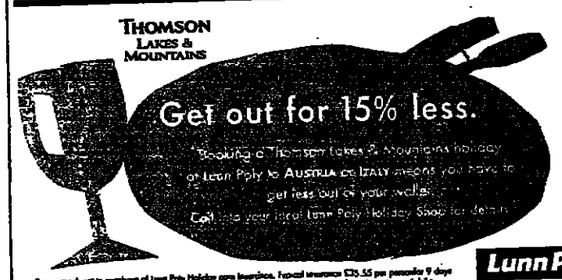
Book by 18th February '98

WORLD OFFERS BRITISH AIRWAYS The world's favourite airline

Fares are return from London and subject to availability and travel periods. Travel up to end March '98. Includes pre-paid taxes correct at 14 January '98. Rome – fare £129/tax £16, Venice – fare £139/tax £16, Paris – fare £58/tax £17. For details see ITV Teletext p.380, your travel agent, British Airways Travel Shop or book and pay at our Web site: www.british-airways.com

OVERSEAS TRAVEL

THOMSON LAKES & MOUNTAINS




Lunn Poly The UK's No.1 Holiday Shop

Discover solvent to purchase of Lunn Poly Holiday save insurance. Typical insurance £26.55 per person for 9 days cover. Credit card surcharge of 1% applies. Offer applies to new bookings only and is subject to availability. Thomson Tour Operations Ltd. ATOL 2524. ABTA V5126

**DRAMATICALLY** Different Mexico, Central America, Guyana, Cuba and more. Tailor-made by experts. Trips Worldwide 0117 9872626 ATOL 3150

**JORDAN** Egypt Israel Syria, tailor-made itineraries. Call Destination Red Sea on 0181 4409900 ABTA W0122 ATOL 3651

CADOGAN HOLIDAYS

8 Award winning Winter 97/98 & Summer 1998 Brochures

- A superb selection of 3, 4 & 5★ hotels
- Day flights, or Gatwick & Heathrow
- Special regional add-ons
- Free Cadogan Bank & Discount Card
- Deals, Children, Singles, Honeymooners
- Early Booking Bonus, extra nights free
- Flexible durations from 2-56 nights
- Price pledge: We will not be beaten

ALGARVE OPORTO
PORTO SANTO
MADEIRA
MOROCCO
GIBRALTAR
TUNISIA
GOZO MALTA
COMINO
BERMUDA
SPAIN
CYPRUS
MAJORCA
JERSEY

VOTED BEST SPECIALIST SHORT HAUL OPERATOR '97

Reservations 9am - 5.30pm
01703 828515
Brochure line 24hr
0990 171819

AUSTRIA

**BETWEEN** Innsbruck + Salzburg. 3 bdrm, pvt house, bale, sun incl. 01625 860850.

CITY BREAKS

**KIEV** Breaks. Independent travel flights. INTERCHANGE 0181 681 3612 ATOL 2429

OVERSEAS TRAVEL

CADOGAN HOLIDAYS

8 Award winning Winter 97/98 & Summer 1998 Brochures

- A superb selection of 3, 4 & 5★ hotels
- Day flights, or Gatwick & Heathrow
- Special regional add-ons
- Free Cadogan Bank & Discount Card
- Deals, Children, Singles, Honeymooners
- Early Booking Bonus, extra nights free
- Flexible durations from 2-56 nights
- Price pledge: We will not be beaten

ALGARVE OPORTO
PORTO SANTO
MADEIRA
MOROCCO
GIBRALTAR
TUNISIA
GOZO MALTA
COMINO
BERMUDA
SPAIN
CYPRUS
MAJORCA
JERSEY

VOTED BEST SPECIALIST SHORT HAUL OPERATOR '97

Reservations 9am - 5.30pm
01703 828515
Brochure line 24hr
0990 171819

CITY BREAKS

ST PETERSBURGH from £220. INTERCHANGE brochure 0181 681 3612 ATOL 2429




AIRPORT PARKING

HEATHROW £4.95 per day (no min stay). Free parking offers 24 hrs. Max charge £69.50. (Up to 100 days) Secure Parking Ltd 0181 813 8180.

AFRICA

CAPE TOWN Beach front, 3 bed From £80 pp/pw & pool. Avail Immed. Tel: 0181 788 2279

**CARRIER: exclusive Africa.**
South Africa, Zimbabwe, Botswana, Namibia, Zambia, Kenya, Tanzania, Indian Ocean. Tailor-made holidays & luxury safaris from £1,490. Call now for new brochure.
ATOL CARRIER ABTA Aspects of Africa
01625 582006

OVERSEAS TRAVEL

WONDER FULL EGYPT
5★HOTEL 1 WK FROM £329
4★CRUISE 1 WK FROM £369
0171 407 2111
BERLIN HOLIDAYS ABTA P6952

America By Rail



From coast to coast, vibrant cities linked by magnificent scenery. Highlights include New York, Chicago, Denver, Grand Canyon, Los Angeles & San Francisco. Join one of our imaginative tours for the best way to see this vast and diverse country.
Tour Price from £725
Call for your brochure
☎ 01753 681999
Explorers Tours

CHECK-IN

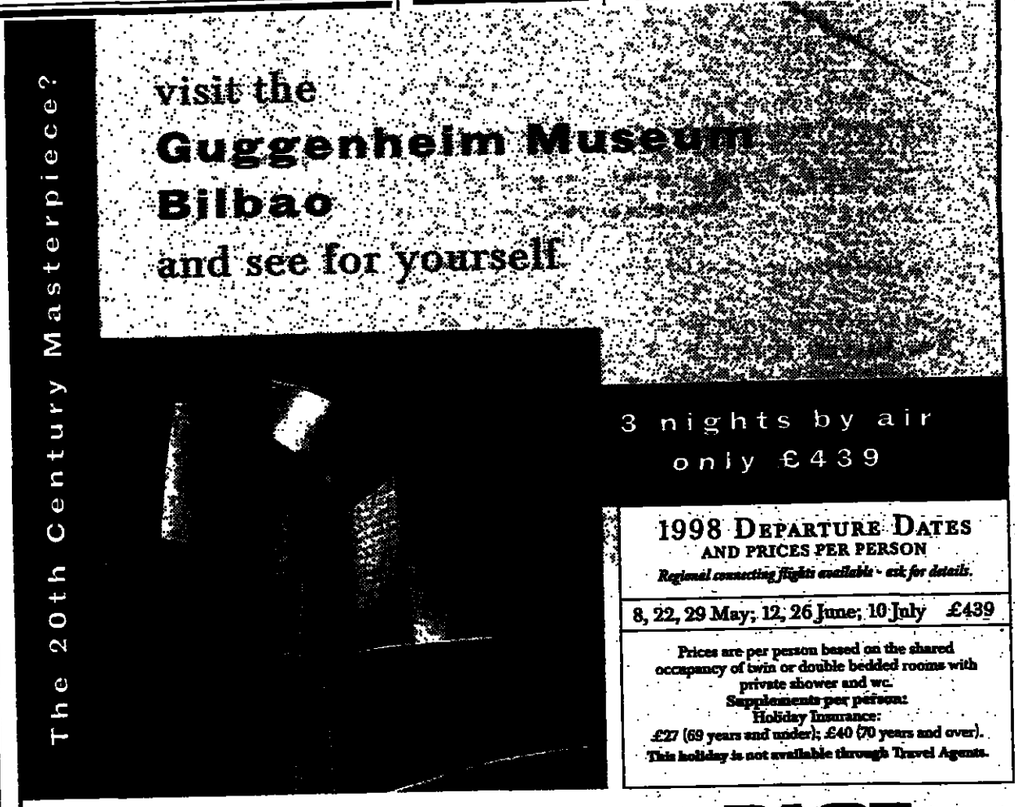
Avoid copycats

Fly the real thing!




easyJet
www.easyJet.com

OVERSEAS TRAVEL




**1998 Departure Dates and Prices per person**

*Regional connecting flights available - ask for details.*

8, 22, 29 May; 12, 26 June; 10 July £439

Prices are per person based on the shared occupancy of twin or double bedded rooms with private shower and wc.
Supplements per person:
Holiday Insurance:
£27 (69 years and under); £40 (70 years and over).
This holiday is not available through Travel Agents.

Architects and artists tend to be unanimous on this subject - the Guggenheim Museum is the building of the 20th Century, destined to draw admiration and reverence for centuries to come. Its unmistakable silhouette, shining on the banks of the River Bilbao will surely, make it one of the world's most notable landmarks, as it greets the new Millennium. The Museum is the centrepiece of this wonderful short break which includes more, much more, as well as a day exploring the unspoilt land and seascapes of Northern Spain.

**day 1**

We take a scheduled flight from Heathrow to Bilbao and transfer to the 4-star Hotel Carlton. This hotel is a listed building and occupies one of the finest locations in the city, overlooking the main square. Dinner in the hotel is included this evening.

**day 2**

We start with a visit to the Museo de Bellas Artes to enjoy the stunning works by major Spanish artists like Goya, Subaran and Velazquez. A short walk then takes us to the Guggenheim Museum; all chaos and confusion in its exterior shape; all clean lines and elegant curves inside. The permanent collection includes works by the most prominent artists of the past 40 years and also works by Picasso, Schiele and Severini. After an introduction to the Museum you will be free to explore the Guggenheim at your leisure.

**day 3**

Today there is an optional excursion along the coast towards Santander and on the Cantabrian coastal village of Santillana - reputed to be the prettiest village in Spain. Lunch will be at the Parador, a 17th Century stately home, one of many listed buildings in the area.

**day 4**

A free morning in Bilbao before our scheduled flight back to Heathrow.

**the price includes**

- Scheduled flights from London Heathrow.
- Transfers between airport and hotel.
- 3 nights' accommodation; 2 nights' bed & breakfast and 1 night half-board.
- Entrance to museums.
- Holiday delay insurance, airport taxes, security charges and air passenger duty.
- Services of an experienced tour leader.

PAGE & MOY HOLIDAYS

**call today**

Brochure & Reservation Hotline
**0116 250 7747**
Please quote ref: E0000/1
Weekdays 9am - 7.30pm, Saturdays 9am - 6pm, Sundays 10am - 4pm.

**OR POST**

Page & Moy Ltd., 136-140 London Road, Leicester, LE2 1EN.
Email: holiday@page-moy.co.uk

☐ Please send me your 1998 brochure.
☐ Reserve me:.....places on the Guggenheim Museum, Bilbao Holiday.
Departure date:.....
MR/MRS/MISS/MS:
ADDRESS:
POSTCODE:
PHONE:
☐ I enclose my cheque for £.....made payable to Page & Moy Ltd. as a deposit of £80 per person.
I wish to pay by: ☐ ☐ ☐
☐ ☐ (Issue No:.....).
A/C No.:
EXP. DATE:
NAME: DATE:
SIGNATURE:
☐ Page & Moy may pass your details to other reputable companies who may use them to offer you goods and services. Please tick if you prefer not to receive these offers.

E0000/169

ROLL UP ROLL UP
TRAVEL MARKET
0800 731 9185

CAR HIRE
"WINTER SALE"
0870 9022333

JETLINE
Discounted fares to all destinations
0171 360 1111

NEXUS TRAVEL
0117 927 7727

CANADIAN Affair

| | |
|---|---|
| Toronto | £169 |
| Montreal | £199 |
| Ottawa | £229 |
| Halifax | £229 |
| Vancouver | £259 |
| Winnipeg | £309 |
| Calgary | £289 |
| Edmonton | £278 |

0171 385 4400
0161 832 4000

OVERSEAS TRAVEL

Travel as many times as you like from £39.95 a year

With our annual travel insurance you can take an unlimited number of trips. To enrol, call between 8am and 8pm Monday to Friday quoting reference TIA03.

Insurance Services
0800 700 737
Available to non-Cardmembers

No need to compromise

Certain exclusions and limitations apply. Policy Terms and Conditions are available on request. American Express Services Europe Limited is an independent intermediary approved by the SIB. Code of Conduct. American Express Services Europe Limited. Registered Office: Portland House, Stag Place, London SW1E 5BZ. Registered Number: 1833579

CHECK-IN

COSTCUTTERS on flights & hols to Europe, USA & most destinations. Discount Travel Services Ltd: 0171-720 2201. ABTA 25703 IATA/ATOL 1355.

TRAVEL ZONE LTD
0171 287 8997

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| ALGARVE | fr £499 | SPAIN | fr £79 |
| FAR EAST | £349 | PORTUGAL | £59 |
| INDIA | £299 | ITALY | £99 |
| AFRICA | £349 | GREECE | £99 |
| S. AFRICA | £399 | E.EUROPE | £149 |
| USA/CANADA | £199 | GERMANY | £89 |
| CARIBBEAN | £299 | FRANCE | £99 |
| S.AMERICA | £349 | TURKEY | £129 |

FARESAVERS
01476 592095

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| MALAGA | £69 | GREECE | fr £89 |
| ALICANTE | £69 | TURKEY | £119 |
| FARO | £69 | ISRAEL | £119 |
| TENERIFE | £79 | MALTA | £89 |
| LAS PALMAS | £79 | CYPRUS | £129 |
| LANZAROTE | £79 | ITALY | £89 |
| BALEARICS | £69 | CARIBBEAN | £219 |

ALL EUROPEAN/WORLDWIDE FLIGHTS
ALSO CAR HIRE/ACCOMMODATION

GLOBAL FLIGHTS
ALL DESTINATIONS AVAILABLE
BEST RATES CAR HIRE/INS/ACCOM
0171 630 7800

WORLDWIDE Destinations
We can arrange flights, hotels, packages etc...
Call us now for
Global Travel
0161 929 5559

sunWORLD BEACH VILLAS
Choose from over 300 private villas in
Majorca • Menorca • Costa Blanca • France • Malta • The Algarve • Cyprus • Turkey • Caribbean • Florida
For a brochure or to book call
0990 58 58 58

FARE EAST
SPECTACULAR HOLIDAY PACKAGE




Singapore Spectacular: a great holiday package with Singapore Airlines. Including Economy airfare and 3 nights hotel twin-based accommodation, breakfast, airport transfers and city tour. Package price is £399 plus £26 pre-payable taxes. Valid from 12th January to 30th April 1998 (excluding 21st February to 1st March 1998). Restrictions apply. Contact Singapore Airlines or see your travel agent.

SINGAPORE AIRLINES

AMSTERDAM FROM £79 RETURN inc. taxes



Look closely. There are no hidden extras in the price of our return flights.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| BELFAST* | from £69 rtn | FRANKFURT | from £130 rtn |
| BERGEN | from £205 rtn | GLASGOW* | from £69 rtn |
| BRUSSELS | from £79 rtn | NICE | from £125 rtn |
| COLOGNE | from £105 rtn | OSLO | from £165 rtn |
| COPENHAGEN | from £142 rtn | PALMA | from £124 rtn |
| DRESDEN | from £219 rtn | PARIS | from £69 rtn |
| DUBLIN | from £79 rtn | PRAGUE | from £195 rtn |
| EDINBURGH* | from £69 rtn | ZURICH | from £130 rtn |

Return flight prices from London Heathrow, including taxes. Other fares are also available from East Midlands, Leeds Bradford, Teesside, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Belfast and Dublin.

Book by 28th February 1998.
Travel must be completed by 2nd April 1998.
Contact your local travel agent or call for details on

**0345 554554**

or book on the Internet http://www.flybritishmidland.com

British Midland
The Airline for Europe

Prices quoted available on selected dates and flights. Subject to availability. Travel must include a Saturday night stay. Flight prices include UK and foreign levied taxes (exchange rates may vary). *14 days advance booking required for Belfast, Edinburgh and Glasgow at advertised price level. Calls are recorded.

OVERSEAS TRAVEL

Holiday Parks Holland Germany
Quality holiday parks in Holland and the Black Forest and Mosel regions of Germany.
Phone 01502 502 605
Quote A1569
HOSEASONS

National Parks Walking Tours

*Join us for a walk through some of America's most breathtaking scenery.*

The Grand Canyon, Monument Valley, Bryce Canyon, Arches & Yosemite are among the highlights on these leisurely tours. A gentle stroll or a more challenging hike, the choice is yours.
*12 days from £1,895.*
*Call for your brochure*
☎ 01753 681999
Explorers Tours

Going Places
HOLIDAY MATCHMAKERS
AUSTRALIA
£730
PLUS
2 STOPOVERS AIR
THE DOMESTIC FLIGHTS
QANTAS
No 1 FOR DOWN UNDER
0161 474 7555

## Because we think the world of you ...

Unequivocal protection against airline insolvency - CAA approved

current best buys on the world's finest airlines

| | one way | return | | one way | return | | one way | return |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| SYDNEY | £297 | £532* | NEW YORK | £184 | £184 | MEXICO CITY | £281 | £331 |
| PERTH | £356 | £643 | BOSTON | £188 | £188 | INDIA | £209 | £358 |
| CAIRNS | £379 | £688 | CHICAGO | £193 | £215 | JO'BURG | £219 | £369 |
| AUCKLAND | £376 | £619 | FLORIDA | £135 | £235 | CAPE TOWN | £266 | £381 |
| BANGKOK | £224 | £372 | LOS ANGELES | £255 | £271 | HARARE | £279 | £504 |
| HONG KONG | £269 | £334 | SAN FRANCISCO | £255 | £271 | NAIROBI | £165 | £297 |
| SINGAPORE | £256 | £379 | DENVER | £271 | £271 | DUBAI | £174 | £248 |
| BALI | £287 | £438 | TORONTO | £199 | £231 | CARIBBEAN | £264 | £311 |
| BEIJING | £213 | £287 | VANCOUVER | £297 | £313 | GENEVA | £99 | £137 |
| TOKYO | £360 | £469 | LAS VEGAS | £272 | £272 | AROUND THE WORLD | | £824 |

*Per person based on 2 people travelling

plus discounted quality accommodation per room per night from

AUSTRALIA £36 • USA £29 • AFRICA £38 • PACIFIC £46 • ASIA £27

USA CAR HIRE FROM £20 PER DAY* - CALL NOW FOR OUR TAILORMADE WORLDWIDE AND NORTH AMERICA BROCHURES

TRAILFINDERS
THE TRAVEL EXPERTS

– QANTAS/BRITISH AIRWAYS TO AUSTRALIA
FROM £643 RETURN
A CHOICE OF STOPOVERS AVAILABLE
PLUS AUS50 WORTH OF TRAVEL VOUCHERS
TO SPEND IN AUSTRALIA

HOTELS • CAR HIRE • TRAVEL INSURANCE • TOURS • CRUISES • WORLDWIDE TAILORMADE

worldwide attention to detail

For the real lowdown on worldwide travel, Trailfinders is your one stop travel shop.
Trailfinders offers more low cost flights to more destinations than anyone. Experts in airfares since 1970, we can tailor-make your very own package with up to 65% discount on hotels and car hire worldwide.

FOR YOUR FREE COPY OF THE TRAILFINDER MAGAZINE CALL 0171-938 3366 ANYTIME

ATOL 1458 IATA ABTA 69701

| | |
|---|---|
| 42-50 Earls Court Road<br>Long Haul Travel | • LONDON W8 6FT<br>0171-938 3366 |
| 194 Kensington High Street<br>Long Haul Travel<br>First & Business Class: | • LONDON W8 7RG<br>0171-938 3939<br>0171-938 3444 |
| 215 Kensington High Street<br>Transatlantic & European. | • LONDON W8 6BD<br>0171-937 5400 |
| 22-24 The Priory Queensway<br>Worldwide Travel: | • BIRMINGHAM B4 6BS<br>0121-236 1234 |
| 48 Corn Street<br>Worldwide Travel: | • BRISTOL BS1 1HQ<br>0117-929 9000 |
| 254-284 Sauchiehall Street<br>Worldwide Travel | • GLASGOW G2 3EH<br>0141-353 2224 |
| 58 Deansgate<br>Worldwide Travel<br>First & Business Class: | • MANCHESTER M3 2FF<br>0161-839 6969<br>0161-839 3434 |

All our travel centres are open Mon-Fri from 9-7pm • Sat 9-5pm • Sun 10-5pm

Trailfinders does not impose charges on credit cards

... people think the world of us!

## Australia New Zealand

AUSTRALIA FARES FROM £591 RETURN
NEW ZEALAND FARES FROM £619 RETURN

- Car & campervan hire, etc. all at coach passes.
- Accommodation from budget to luxury.

Departs 1 Mar–30 Jun 98 or Depart 17 Oct–30 Jun 99

☎ 01420-88724 or 0171-287 5556

## USA Canada

USA FARES FROM £182 RETURN
CANADA FARES FROM £243 RETURN

- Tailor-Made Self-Drive packages
- Any city, state, destination
- Coach tours

Pop in and see us today, centrally located in Piccadilly Circus

☎ 01420-88380 or 0171-287 5559

## Far East

- HONG KONG
- THAILAND • BALI
- MALAYSIA
- BANGKOK
- SINGAPORE
- INDIA

FAR EAST FARES FROM £285 return
HONG KONG FROM £299 pp

We are tailormade specialists and can arrange flights, accommodation and tours.

☎ 01420-80828 or 0171-287 5558

## Southern Africa

- South Africa • Botswana
- Namibia • Zimbabwe

SOUTH AFRICA FARES FROM £369 RETURN

- New adventure & tours for all ages, fabulous safaris, game viewing.
- Rail/Coach tours, Self-drive
- Luxury "Stays of Distinction"

☎ 01420-80828 or 0171-287 5535

OPEN 7 DAYS Mon-Fri 9am to 7pm, Sat 9am to 5pm, Sun 9am to 5pm (London to 4pm)

12 High Street, Alton, Hants, GU34 1BN
Or
52 Regent Street, London, W1R 6DX

FAX: 01420-82133 or 0171-287 4522

All fares subject to availability. Restrictions may apply, ask for details. Air fares include pre-paid taxes, locally paid taxes may apply

WHY WE'RE THE BEST

TRAVELBAG PLUS — A unique range of added benefits to make your journey smoother
TOUR CHOICE — Fantastic tour and sightseeing options
LOWEST FARES — Best choice – top-quality scheduled airlines
ACCOMMODATION — All the options, from budget to the most luxurious
SPECIALIST CONSULTANTS — Tailored information to your exact wishes
WE'LL FIX IT ALL... — Car and campervan hire, coach tours and hotels

TRAVELBAG™
OFFICIALLY APPOINTED QANTAS AGENT

## BUSINESS CLASS TO AUSTRALIA

For £1799 Return
on a new Lauda-air Boeing 777

- Fly the latest Boeing 777 to Sydney & Melbourne.
- Departures from London & Manchester.
- Luxury 50" seat pitch, personal interactive video & telephones.
- Award Winning Service.
- Economy fares from £661.

TO BOOK, CALL YOUR NEAREST AUSTRAVEL SHOP

LONDON WEST END 0171 734 7755
KNIGHTSBRIDGE 0171 838 1011
CITY 0171 588 1516
BIRMINGHAM 0121 200 1116
BOURNEMOUTH 01202 311488
BRISTOL 0117 927 7425
LEEDS 0113 244 8880
MANCHESTER 0161 832 2445

AUSTRAVEL
50 Conduit Street, London W1
Offers subject to availability. Taxes included. ABTA C1084, ATOL 4022

# New Zealand FIJI FREE

Get away...
Restore body and soul – get as far away from it all as you possibly can. Escape to a land with room to breathe, unwind and totally relax.

Enjoy...
Nature unspoiled. Mountains, forests, lakes, wild rivers, long golden beaches, glaciers and geysers.

Action...
4 day/3 night Awesome Four Day Christchurch to Queenstown or vice versa from – £304pp (twin share)
Includes:- Fully guided Hell Hike, Shotover jet boat ride, white water rafting, bush walks, trans alpine train including all coach connections & 3 nights self contained accommodation.

Coach Touring...
14 day Discovery tour departs Christchurch, ends in Auckland from £1195 pp (twin share, excl. flights) exploring both North and South Island.

HIGH SEASON SEE BOTH FROM £749 LOW FARE
BOOK AND PAY BEFORE 31 MAR 1998

Choice...
Accommodation from £21 pp (twin share)
Car hire from £22 per car per day include insurance
3 Day Bay of Islands independent tour departs Auckland from £187 pp (twin share)

†virgin atlantic — AIR PACIFIC

A brilliant opportunity to enjoy a South Seas Island holiday and see New Zealand. Save £75 on the air fare if you visit Fiji only. Offer subject to booking a minimum stay of 5 nights accommodation with us in Fiji. For example, spend at least 5 nights with us at Naviti Beach Resort on the Coral Coast. From only £148 per person, first class accommodation, twin share (excluding transfers). Or take a tour or cruise of at least 5 nights accommodation and SAVE!!

SAVE £75 OFF YOUR FARE IF YOU VISIT FIJI ONLY

☎ 01420-88724 or 0171-287 5556

TRAVELBAG™

Air fares include pre-paid taxes, locally paid taxes may apply † Economy Trans atlantic flight only

OPEN 7 DAYS Mon-Fri 9am to 7pm, Sat 9am to 5pm, Sun 9am to 5pm (London to 4pm)

12 High Street, Alton, Hants, GU34 1BN
Or
52 Regent Street, London, W1R 6DX

FAX: 01420-82133 or 0171-287 4522

All fares subject to availability. Restrictions may apply, ask for details.

SINGAPORE AIRLINES — 3 nights in Singapore for only £425 per person

Price includes return flights, airport tax, accommodation & breakfast, airport transfers & city tour and is based on 2 people travelling together. Call for full details.

FLIGHTS DIRECT

Other airlines return prices including pre-paid airport taxes from:

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Perth | £635 | Beijing | £283 | Miami | £225 |
| Sydney | £526* | Bombay | £349 | Los Angeles | £225 |
| Auckland | £619 | Johannesburg | £383 | Las Vegas | £260 |
| Hong Kong | £335 | Dubai | £284 | Toronto | £194 |
| Bangkok | £344 | New York | £181 | Vancouver | £304 |
| Singapore | £379 | Boston | £196 | Mexico | £326 |

*per person based on 2 people travelling together

Prices are subject to availability. THERE ARE NO ADDITIONAL CHARGES ON CREDIT CARD BOOKINGS. To ensure quality service calls are recorded. The Thomas Cook Group Ltd.

Thomas Cook

Lines open 9am-9pm Mon-Fri, 10am-6pm Sat-Sun
ABTA F1304, ATOL 0265

0870 75 00 136

WE GO FURTHER TO FIND THE RIGHT FLIGHT

## Travel Insurance

Preferential Annual Price... from only £40
Preferential multi-trip or single journey policies

NO PENALTY FOR OVER 65's

Preferential 01702 42 33 93
Open Mon-Fri 8am-9pm, Sat & Sun 10am-6pm

# FLIGHTBOOKERS

travelling freestyle

ABTA D0806/V8800 ATOL 2562 IATA

WE WILL NOT BE BEATEN ON PRICE OR SERVICE

Includes all pre-paid taxes OPEN 7 DAYS

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| New York fr | £186 | Sydney fr | £602 |
| Boston | £189 | Auckland | £619 |
| Florida | £220 | Bangkok | £340 |
| Los Angeles | £220 | Singapore | £374 |
| S.Francisco | £220 | Hong Kong | £349 |
| Chicago | £219 | Beijing | £299 |
| Las Vegas | £265 | Jo'burg | £363 |
| Dallas | £170 | Nairobi | £285 |
| Washington | £169 | | |
| Toronto | £236 | | |
| Rio | £384 | | |

CAR HIRE

- ✓ Florida/California fr £146 per week
- ✓ Canada fr £172 per week
- ✓ Australia fr £174 per week
- ✓ New Zealand fr £183 per week
- ✓ South Africa fr £213 per week

All rates are fully inclusive

| USA & CANADA | AUSTRALIA & NZ | WORLDWIDE | FLORIDA | CAR HIRE BROCHURE |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 0171 757 2000 | 0171 757 2468 | 0171 757 2444 | 0171 757 2222 | 0171 757 2205 |

Gatwick Branch: 01293 568300 Glasgow Branch: 0141 204 1919

All fares are return flights, subject to availability, seasonal & regional supplements, c.c. surcharges

## PLATINUM TRAVEL

ADVENTURE TRAVEL AND FLIGHTS AT AFFORDABLE PRICES

— CURRENT BEST BUYS — (*excl taxes)

| | O/W | RTN | | O/W | RTN | | O/W | RTN |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| SYDNEY | £319 | £555 | SINGAPORE | £240 | £360 | HARARE | £279 | £420 |
| CAIRNS | £342 | £567 | HONG KONG | £250 | £329 | IO'BURG | £220 | £345 |
| PERTH | £340 | £555 | JAKARTA | £245 | £387 | CAPE TOWN | £275 | £407 |
| AUCKLAND | £399 | £650 | BALI | £260 | £415 | MEXICO CITY | £260 | £389 |
| DELHI | £215 | £315 | SAIGON | £270 | £390 | RIO DE JANEIRO | £289 | £355 |
| BOMBAY | £212 | £315 | CAIRO | £159 | £210 | TORONTO | £187 | £209 |
| MADRAS | £266 | £390 | BEIJING | £270 | £281 | NEW YORK | £129 | £135 |
| KATHMANDU | £240 | £415 | DUBAI | £189 | £279 | BOSTON | £129 | £135 |
| COLOMBO | £245 | £377 | TOKYO | £250 | £440 | LOS ANGELES | £134 | £194 |
| BANGKOK | £220 | £345 | NAIROBI | £219 | £279 | GRAND CAYMAN | £165 | |

SPECIAL OFFERS

*NAIROBI £329 rtn
*DUBAI £279 rtn
*TANGIERS £149 rtn
*S.AFRICA £359 rtn

- AROUND THE WORLD -
UK - BANGKOK - SYDNEY - CAIRNS - PERTH - HONG KONG - LONDON £689
Departs between 1st March - 15th April Book by 15th February
Whether you are holidaying or visiting home, would like to go direct or with a stopover, at Platinum Travel we offer more flights via more destinations, at all the right prices to suit your requirements

LONG HAUL 0171 937 5122 TRANSATLANTIC & EUROPE 0171 937 2654
52 EARLS COURT ROAD, KENSINGTON, LONDON W8 6EJ
OPEN: MONDAY TO FRIDAY 9AM-6PM, SATURDAY 10AM-2PM IATA

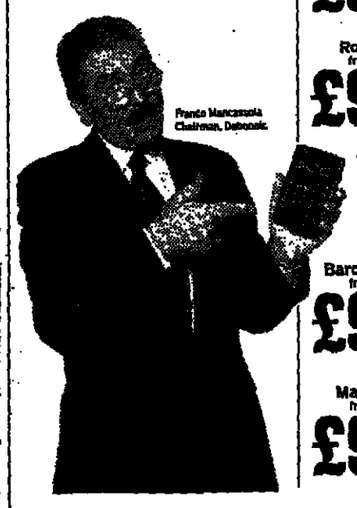
Daily scheduled flights from London Luton.

Return prices now include UK £10 and foreign departure tax.

Dusseldorf from £99 return
Nice from £99 return
Munich from £99 return
Rome from £99 return
Barcelona from £99 return
Madrid from £99 return

Franco says "£99 return to any of our destinations? That's right! You have until 5 March to book this amazing offer."

(Travel valid until 5 April.)




debonair
We're opening up the skies.
Call now on 0541 500 300
or contact your travel agent.

Booking period: 7/2/98 to 5/3/98. Travel valid between 7/2/98 to 5/4/98. Valid on Debonair published weekend special fares only. Saturday night stay required. Taxes are correct at time of going to press. All prices are subject to availability. For our European Vacations brochure call 01293 856006.

## USA & CANADA QUALITY CAR RENTALS

- FULLY INCLUSIVE RATES
- LOWEST FLORIDA LONG RENTALS
- LOWEST ONEWAY DROP OFFS
- CANADA-TO-USA RENTALS
- FREE EXTRA DRIVERS BETWEEN CALIFORNIA & NEVADA
- FREE SPOUSE DRIVERS
- NO DROP OFF CHARGES BETWEEN CALIFORNIA & NEVADA
- NO AIRPORT TAXES
- NO HANDLING FEES
- NO PRIVILEGE FEES
- NO CREDIT CARD FEES
- NO PROBLEM!

FREEWAY USA RENT-A-CAR

01444 450101
FAX 01444 454548
Email: sales@freeway-usa.com

## SAVE on TRAVEL INSURANCE

ANNUAL from £69 | LONG STAY from £10.50 per month | USA CAR HIRE TOP-UP Extends liability to $1M | SINGLE TRIP from £10

WORLDWIDE
01892 833 338

## TRAVEL Insurance

We will not be beaten on price!

USA - 17days £23.00 | 12months Australia £150
World-wide family Multi-trip £75.00 | EUROPE 17days £11.00
FREE AIRPORT PARKING WITH EVERY POLICY (Student int'l days min, Pre Book)

0990 133218 7 days

AIRLINK Worldwide
Discount Fares to all Destinations
Prices from:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| SPAIN/Fly to | £0 | CANADA | £145 |
| CANARIES | £0 | NEW YORK | £135 |
| PORTUGAL | £0 | CALIFORNIA | £195 |
| GREECE | £0 | FLORIDA | £195 |
| ITALY | £0 | ORLANDO | £195 |
| FRANCE | £0 | MIAMI | £195 |
| MALTA | £0 | Student Discounts on Intl Fares | |
| ISRAEL | £0 | Student Discounts on Intl Fares | |
| CYPRUS | £0 | Student Discounts on Intl Fares | |
| TURKEY | £0 | Student Discounts on Intl Fares | |

Low Fare Insurance & Accommodation
0171-713-7770

ABROAD HOLIDAYS
BOOKED YET??? WHY NOT!
Holidays also available
Prices fr Feb Mar Easter Rates Valid To

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Canaries | £79 | £85 | £85 | £85 | £85 |
| Spain | £59 | £65 | £65 | £65 | £65 |
| Algarve | £69 | £69 | £69 | £69 | £69 |
| Greece | £69 | £79 | £89 | £89 | £89 |
| Cyprus | £79 | £89 | £89 | £79 | £89 |

Flights fr £79 also USA & Worldwide
0171 437A 0448
0181 767 3030

## DIRECT TRAVEL INSURANCE

for TOP QUALITY COVER AND VALUE

WORLDWIDE ANNUAL MULTI-TRIP
UNLIMITED SKI - UNLIMITED TRIPS
COMPREHENSIVE COVER £95 PER FAMILY

UK'S BEST SINGLE TRIP RATES from
EUR £6.00
USA £14.25
SKI £10.50

A Commercial Union Co.
General Insurer of the Year 1997

01903 812345 For instant cover or quotation 9am - 8pm Seven days a week

AIRLINE NETWORK

The National Sales Centre for over 100 leading scheduled airlines, with 800,000 discount fares to 1,000 destinations.

USA & WORLDWIDE FLIGHTS
01772 727 727
AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND
01772 727 727
BUSINESS & FIRST CLASS 01772 727 747
ROUND THE WORLD 01772 727 222
HOTELS & TAILORMADE 01772 727 757
EUROPEAN FLIGHTS 0990 423 423

All Fares Bonded ABTA ATOL 2400 IATA 90 2 1 0 0 | OPEN 9am-9pm 7 days a week | SEE ITV Teletext P.275 | Subject to availability

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| DALLAS | £183 | DUBAI | £298 |
| BOSTON | £193 | VANCOUVER | £315 |
| NEW YORK | £193 | CALGARY | £315 |
| WASHINGTON | £207 | MEXICO CITY | £331 |
| ATLANTA | £224 | HONG KONG | £337 |
| DETROIT | £230 | INDIA | £359 |
| CHICAGO | £230 | BANGKOK | £367 |
| FLORIDA | £233 | SOUTH AFRICA | £379 |
| SEATTLE | £233 | SINGAPORE | £386 |
| TORONTO | £243 | TOKYO | £479 |
| ARIZONA | £268 | AUSTRALIA | £528 |
| DENVER | £274 | NEW ZEALAND | £619 |

CALIFORNIA FLY/DRIVE fr £239
*Includes 7 days FREE EC Car Rental. Hotels fr £12 pp per night.
Continental Airlines

## USA and CANADA

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| ★Dallas | from £169 | ★Toronto | from £174 |
| ★New York | from £179 | ★Montreal | from £229 |
| ★Boston | from £193 | ★Vancouver | from £274 |
| ★Baltimore | from £193 | | |
| ★Washington | from £199 | | |
| ★Chicago | from £209 | | |
| ★Philadelphia | from £219 | | |
| ★Orlando | from £219 | | |
| ★San Francisco | from £219 | | |
| ★Los Angeles | from £219 | | |
| ★Miami | from £219 | | |
| ★Seattle | from £219 | | |

★★ SPECIAL OFFER ★★
NEW YORK £179
Depart London Heathrow before 31 March 98
HOTELS from £39 per person per night
eclipse

0990 329 326

Lines Open: Mon-Fri 8am-8pm, Sat 9am-5pm, Sun 10am-5pm.
All fares are low return airline flights, subject to availability and include all pre-payable taxes.
First Choice Holidays & Flights Ltd. ABTA V1549 ATOL 230 IATA

AB AIRLINES
FIRST FOR VALUE
TAX-INCLUSIVE RETURN FLIGHT
CONTACT YOUR TRAVEL AGENT OR CALL AB AIRLINES ON:
0345 46 47 48
www.abairlines.com

LISBON fr £131
BERLIN fr £116
SHANNON fr £75

Going Places
THE HOLIDAY MATCHMAKER

AUSTRALIA FROM £730 PLUS
2 STOPOVERS AND 2 FREE DOMESTIC FLIGHTS!!
WITH QANTAS
OVER 700 SHOPS NATIONWIDE
TEL: 0161 474 7555
FREE VISA SERVICE!

Annual Travel Insurance from just £35
Family cover from £70
Single-trip from: £6 Europe, £12 USA
Buy Direct from the Specialists.
01603 767699
OPEN 7 DAYS
TRAVELLERS PROTECTION SERVICES LIMITED

TRAVEL INSURANCE
£10 OFF every policy sold
Offer valid until 31/03/98. One application per trip. Applies only to policies costing £30 or over.
01243 817781
CLUB DIRECT

FLIGHTSAVERS
Now booking Summer 98
Resell agents for ATOL holders. ABTA C0017
ABTA members for 15 years
Selected flights prices from:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Alicante | £59 | Turkey | £129 |
| Malaga | £62 | Jamaica | £99 |
| Faro | £59 | Greece & Islands | £99 |
| Palma | £69 | Cyprus | £79 |
| Menorca/Ibiza | £69 | Gatwick | £129 |
| Tenerife | £79 | Israel | £169 |
| Lanzarote | £79 | Orlando | £229 |
| Funchal | £89 | Canada | |

0990 239004

WEBAZ

NEW YORK £179
BANGKOK £350

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| AMSTERDAM | £79 | HONG KONG | £349 |
| CARIBBEAN | £209 | JO'BURG | £299 |
| COLOMBO | £309 | LOS ANGELES | £234 |
| DELHI | £330 | MADRID | £119 |
| DUBAI | £299 | MANILA | £429 |
| FRANKFURT | £115 | MOSCOW | £195 |
| GOA | £279 | SYDNEY | £839 |

LOW SEASON PRICES, INCLUSIVE OF TAX

0171 462 0011

webaz@globalnet.co.uk

ABTA C2273 ATOL 3445

## CITY BREAKS

**PARIS** – Eurostar and first two nights from £119pp. Extra nights from £15pp.

**AMSTERDAM** – Eurostar and first two nights from £141pp. Extra nights from £21pp.

**ROME** – Flight and first two nights from £199pp. Extra nights from £20pp.

**BRUGES** – Eurostar and first two nights from £131pp. Extra nights from £21pp.

**BARCELONA** – Flight and first two nights from £243pp. Extra nights from £22pp.

For city breaks worldwide call us on
**0181 741 4443**
or visit your travel agent

CITY Escapades
ATOL 2398 ABTA V5145
Quote Ref: TCb

## PORTUGAL

THE DETAILS MAKE IT
**Magic**
WINNER INDEPENDENT TRAVEL AGENTS AWARD 1997.
BEST SPECIALIST EUROPEAN OPERATOR.
• Hotels • Villas • Resorts •
• Cities • Islands • Lakes •
24 Hour Brochure Hotline
**0990 462442**
AITO ATOL 2398 ABTA V5145 Quote ref: TPB

## GREECE

**GRECOFILE/FILOXENIA** Escape Packaged Hols created for you! Fly-drives, villas, houses, hols & tours. Mainland/unusual isles Atol Aito 2617 01422 375999

**ITHAKA.** Well appointed purpose built house slps 4/6. 2 shower rooms, stunning views. Priv loc. 0131 445 5336/0127477054

**MAINLAND GREECE-ZAGORIA.** 44 stone-built, traditional villages. Mountains, ravines, waterfalls - wild flowers everywhere. Stay in award winning 'Retreat' Inns, FlyDrives, walking/trekking, photography, painting and Alexander Technique. Brochure tel: 01580 765000. ABTA. AITO, ATOL.

**MAINLAND GREECE** is really magnificent, lovely beaches, mountains, forests to explore. A wide choice of comfortable private villas, cottages and hotels in our magnificent new brochure. Voyages Jules 0800 783 9025 Aito/Atol

**PAXOS, CORFU** Skiathos, Skopelos, Syros. Cottages villas in quiet, unspoilt locations nr sea. Travel a la Carte 01635 201140 AITO, ATOL.

**PAXOS** Stunning hse, May-Sept, slps 8, 2 dbl, 2 twin, maid. Pr £600pw. Tel/fx 01590 612100

**SECRET** Greek Island retreats for those who seek a moreharmonious escape from the crowds. Greek Islands Club's New Private Villa Collection. Tel 01932 220477 ABTA AITO ATOL.

**SKIATHOS:** Superb sea views. Large Villa with Gardens. Sleeps 6-8. 01509 843586

**THE TIMES** recommends Pure Crete, breathtaking views & empty beaches. Pure Crete 01481 760 0879 ATOL AITO.

**ZAKYNTHOS** Rural beach loc, lux villas/hses a/c, all yr, cal brochs. To Book 01425 654227(24hr)

## ITALY

**LAKE GARDA & Maggiore** apts & hotels, also cities Lakes & Murcia 01329 844405. AITO

**CAREFREE ITALY**
Country Villas & Apartments
Charming Intimate Hotels
City Apartments
**01293 552277**
ABTA V0777 ATOL 3495

**SIMPLY Tuscany & Umbria**
*Traditional country villa-apartments with pool, charming intimate hotels and flexible fly-drive holidays. 'Grand Touring' and Painting holidays plus short breaks to Florence, Venice and Rome.*
**0181 995 9323**
ABTA V1337 ATOL 1922 AITO

**ITALIAN Expressions**
The flavour of Italy. Tailor-made hotel holidays. Choose from over 80 hotels in 11 regions & 8 cities.
0171 435 2525

**SIMPLY Ionian**
Paxos, Corfu, Lefkas, Meganisi, Ithaca, Cephalonia, Zakynthos
*Quintessentially Greek holidays away from the mainstream. Private villas with pools, hotels and cottages in beautiful unspoilt locations by the sea and inland.*
**0181 995 9323**
ABTA V1337 ATOL 1922 AITO

**SIMPLY Crete**
*Escape the mainstream and experience an island of stunning landscapes and warm hospitality. Country cottages, villas with pools, quality apartments and family-run hotels in unspoilt locations. Plus flexible 'Wandering' holidays.*
**0181 995 9323**
ABTA V1337 ATOL 1922 AITO

**THE ART OF LIVING IN ITALY**
*Traditional farmhouses, villas and apartments in Italy's prettiest regions.*
FREE COLOUR BROCHURE
RING (0990) 143683
QUOTE 1293
VACANZE IN ITALIA

## ITALY

**TUSCANY** beautiful lux villa nr Lucca. Slps 12. Heated pool. Superb views. 0117 914 5233

**TUSCANY** Apt in restored villa nr Arezzo. Superb views. Slps 2/4. £150-£300. 0181 764 3216.

**UMBRIA** Farmhouse spp. Near Lake Trasimeno. Slps. 2/4. From £270/wk. Brochure/ Winter lines 0117 9245938.

**UMBRIA/TUSCANY** border. Beautiful farm house. Large pool. 01379 650913.

**VENICE** a-c flat in beautifully restored palazzo. Also dbl rm with bth nr. £76pw night incl bkfst. 00359 41 522585 eves

**VENICE.** Central. Stay with us in our palatial home. Open all yr. S/c apt avail. 0171 7227139.

**VENICE** comf cent apt, slps 3/4, c/h, TV, phone, nr all amens. £300/360pw. 01228 311302.

**VIAREGGIO** Tuscany. Penthse flat nr sea. 8 people max. Huge sunny balcony. 01242 521482

## MALTA & GOZO

**EXTENSIVE** Choice of Hotels, Villas & Apts for best prices Brochure avail 01204 669114.

## MOROCCO

**Morocco**
The Land that Delights the Senses
Out now our fabulous 40 page Colour Brochure
- Flexible scheduled flights from Heathrow & Gatwick with Royal Air Maroc & BA
- Accommodation in 3, 4 & 5* hotels
- Tailormade holidays from 3-56 days
- Fly Drives & Imperial Cities Tours
- Child discounts, couple saves & free goods book
- Our guarantee that you cannot get better value anywhere else

Brochure Hotline 01703 828566
Reservations 0990 171819
CADOGAN HOLIDAYS

## PORTUGAL

**AB FAB** Algarve Private Villas/Apts with pools. Look no further. 0181 502 9287

**ABOUT** 5 mins drive Lagos/ beaches. Lux family villa. Lge pool (plus maid. 01535 384702

**AFFORD VALE DO LOBO.** Owners Club. Lux villa, pool, maid. Low prices. 01752 461383

**ARUNDAIRE** choice of affordable villas & apts. Ots do Lago - West Algarve. Jever 0181 204 4663.

**ALGARVE** a beautiful 4 bedroom/4 bathroom villa on fringe coastal village, own pool, maid service, close to beaches, golf, canals, horse riding. 01752 774 586

## ISRAEL

**eilat**
Non-stop flights from Gatwick, Heathrow, Luton and Manchester

| | |
|---|---|
| 2 MARCH | 14 nts B&B from £399 |
| 9 MARCH | 14 nts B&B from £399 |
| 16 MARCH | 14 nts B&B from £479 |
| 30 MARCH | 7 nts B&B from £379 |
| 6 APRIL | 7 nts B&B from £539 |

See your local travel agent or call
**0990 336 336**
Open Mon-Fri 9am to 8pm Saturday 9am to 5pm
UNIJET
All holidays subject to availability. Prices based on economy touring Gatwick. Add £20 for Manchester departures.
Unijet Travel Ltd. ABTA W2708 ATOL 1721

**Idyllic Italy**
Cities, Countryside & Coast
- the complete selection.
Private villas, castles, farmhouses, Agriturismo apartments and hotels.
BRIDGEWATERS IDYLLIC ITALY
ABTA B0219
**0161 707 8795**
24 HOURS

**ITALIAN COLLECTION**
Tuscany, Umbria, Abruzzo, Marche, Sardinia, Rome & Venice
Classic farmhouses & cottages with private swimming pools in unrivalled rural locations.
01403 259788(24hrs)
ILIOS TRAVEL ABTA ATOL 1452

**SHERPA EXPEDITIONS**
An unrivalled choice of walks & cycling tours. Go independently self guided, or join one of our escorted groups. Throughout Europe, In Britain, and even in Central Asia or the Himalayas
For a brochure 0181 577 7187

**CITALIA's ITALY**
*Offering you all that is best in ITALY for over 70 years.*
*For a copy of our 1998 Mini or Citybreaks Brochures please quoting Ref: TT8*
01235 824354
**Citalia**
The Leading Italian Specialist
ABTA V1666 ATOL 2521 IATA 80014770

**See Italy in comfort**
Premier Coach Tours
including flights, four star hotels and choice of menu
For FREE brochure call:
01235 824324 7 days 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.
CRYSTAL ITALY

## ISRAEL

**JERUSALEM OR TEL AVIV**
**Flying Visits**
2 NIGHTS (INCLUDING FLIGHTS)
**£279**
**STAY at the NEW HILTON JERUSALEM overlooking the walled old city OR the HILTON TEL AVIV overlooking the Mediterranean.**
- **CHOOSE** any 2 nights up to 31st March (Except Tel Aviv Friday/Saturday nights only)
- **BASED ON** R.O. p.p. sharing twin, scheduled flights, airport taxes and valuable El Al passbook of Discount Vouchers for restaurants, museums etc.
- **JERUSALEM** – Experience one of the world's most historic cities and discover its modern delights
- **TEL AVIV/JAFFA** – this bustling, cosmopolitan seaside resort never sleeps and offers many diversions

Superstar Holidays
**0171 957 4300**
LUNLINE

## FRANCE



**LOOK!**
Luxury Camping & Mobile Home Holidays in Europe. 12 Night Family Holidays at Whitsun from £334*.
**KEYCAMP Holidays**
**0181 395 8565 24hr**
*Depart 21-30 May. 2 adults and up to 4 children, ferry inclusive, insurance extra.










**MOBILE HOMES AND CHALET TENTS**
**CAMPING KIDS GO FREE**
FREE EXTRA WEEKS
FREE KIDS CLUB
9 SITES TO CHOOSE FROM
FOR BROCHURE CALL
0113 2050 212 FRENCH LIFE
WWW.FRENCHLIFE.CO.UK

## PORTUGAL

**ALGARVE** nr. Quinta do Lago. Lux villa, slps up to 10. Avail fr April, own pool, tennis court. Pr. £1,250pw. 01883 653398.

**ALGARVE** 2 Apartments to let, sleeps 4/6. Attached to private villa with pool. Quiet country side location. 01664 561622.

**ALGARVE/Benzil**, pvt villa, peaceful hillside setting, pvt pool. BBQ. 2 dbls beds, 2 baths, room. Easter. Tel: 01944 895351.

**ALGARVE** 1/2 bed apts in pt villa. Slps 2-4. £138pw. Brochure. 01223 510768/01666 650699

**ALGARVE** Privately owned villa (pool), + apt. July/Aug avail-ability. 01252 733020.

**ALGARVE** Executive Villa. Pool. Bar. BBQ. Sat TV. Slps 9. £90-£120pp. 0370 554209

**ALGARVE** Carvoeiro Lux 3 bed/3 bath villa, slps 6, pool, maid. £850, nr beach. 01992 460849.

**AMAZING** views. V lge mag RIII top villa. 4 ens, twins (slp 10). Superb grds, T court. Pool. Quiet. Tel: 01785 840159

**CARVOEIRO CLUB** Lux villa, 4 dble bdrms, en suite bathrms, air cond, hot pool, fabulous views, golf, maid. 0181 650 8684.

**COMPASS** in Portugal Selection of privately owned villas with pools, some with maids courts. Call for brochure - phones 01905 618202 (24hrs)

**Villas** with private pools
Algarve
Albufeira, Vilamoura, Vale do lobo
James Villa Holidays
07000 845527

**PORTUGAL, MADEIRA & THE AZORES**
BOOK DIRECT & SAVE £100's!
Low Budget & Luxury Holidays
Hotels, Villas, Apts, Manors, Pousadas, Fly Drives, Coach Tours & Douro Cruises. (Packages, Flights on Acc. only)
NEW direct flights
Manchester - Oporto/Lisbon
Portugal Holidays Ltd. ABTA T 4481 ATOL 1857
84 Fonthill Gardens, London SW12 6EY 4 0181 673 9233

**SIMPLY Portugal**
*Truly individual villas with pools, glorious manor houses and selected hotels and pousadas all over this fascinating country, from the Minho and the Douro to the lesser-known Algarve. Plus flexible 'Wandering' holidays and city breaks.*
**0181 995 9323**
ABTA V1337 ATOL 1922 AITO

## RUSSIA

**RUSSIA** Independent Travel Specialists since 1973. Pchge, visas, groups INTERCHANGE 0181 681 3612 ATOL 2429

## SPAIN

**ANDALUCIA GAUCIN.** Unspoilt Mtn village. Lovely traditional hse/apts. Slps 2-12. Magical countryside, exotic gdns, lge pool. Nr vground airports. Walks, Horses. 0171 7209748

**ANDALUCIA** farm house,cottages and beach hse. Quiet wonderful scenery. 01892 668090.

**APTS & Villas in Nerja & Apts in Benalmadena.** Tel 01706 524200/ 711791

**CATALONIA** 5k Tuna coast Begur. Sleeps 6, terrace, pool, beautiful views and seas. 5 mins beach. 01306 885594

**COSTA BRAVA** Luxury villa overlooking Algon Blava Bay. Own hot pool, slps 8. Sky TV, Library, daily maid service. Brochure. Tel: 01504 764563.

**SHERPA EXPEDITIONS**
An unrivalled choice of walks & cycling tours. Go independently self guided, or join one of our escorted groups. Throughout Europe, In Britain, and even in Central Asia or the Himalayas
For a brochure 0181 577 7187

**SIMPLY Spain**
*Escape the mainstream with our unique range of rural farmhouses, country villas with pools and exquisite small hotels in unspoilt locations throughout Andalucia and Mallorca. Plus flexible 'Wandering' holidays and tailor-made options.*
**0181 995 9323**
ABTA V1337 ATOL 1922 AITO

## PORTUGAL

**NORTHEASTERN** mountains Well appointed lux apt in remote mountain village, spectacular views. (3 bedroom + 4 poster bed with ensuite). 0171 586 1083.

**PRIVATELY** Owned villas & apts W.Algarve + Parque da Floresta, Burgau, Salema & Lagos. Independent Villas 01473 610324 ATOL 4721.

**PRIVATELY** owned villas & apts W.Algarve, Lux Ocean Club, Burgau, Salema & Lagos. Independent Villas 01473 610324 ATOL 4721.

## RUSSIA

**RUSSIA** Independent Travel Specialists since 1973. Pchge, visas, groups INTERCHANGE 0181 681 3612 ATOL 2429

## SPAIN

**ANDALUCIA GAUCIN.** Unspoilt Mtn village. Lovely traditional hse/apts. Slps 2-12. Magical countryside, exotic gdns, lge pool. Nr vground airports. Walks, Horses. 0171 7209748

**ANDALUCIA** farm house,cottages and beach hse. Quiet wonderful scenery. 01892 668090.

**APTS & Villas in Nerja & Apts in Benalmadena.** Tel 01706 524200/ 711791

**CATALONIA** 5k Tuna coast Begur. Sleeps 6, terrace, pool, beautiful views and seas. 5 mins beach. 01306 885594

**COSTA BRAVA** Luxury villa overlooking Algon Blava Bay. Own hot pool, slps 8. Sky TV, Library, daily maid service. Brochure. Tel: 01504 764563.

**SHERPA EXPEDITIONS**
An unrivalled choice of walks & cycling tours. Go independently self guided, or join one of our escorted groups. Throughout Europe, In Britain, and even in Central Asia or the Himalayas
For a brochure 0181 577 7187

Villas with private pools
**Moraira & Javea**
Prices from £189
James Villa Holidays
07000 845527

**SIMPLY Spain**
*Escape the mainstream with our unique range of rural farmhouses, country villas with pools and exquisite small hotels in unspoilt locations throughout Andalucia and Mallorca. Plus flexible 'Wandering' holidays and tailor-made options.*
**0181 995 9323**
ABTA V1337 ATOL 1922 AITO

## PORTUGAL

**The Best of Spain & Portugal**
**Paradores & Pousadas**
Exclusive tailor-made holidays far from mass tourism staying at hotels converted from castles, palaces etc. and other excellent hotels. Fly-drive (also chauffeur-driven) or ferry holidays.
**Unicorn Holidays 01582 83 4400**
More than an ordinary holiday!
ATOL 2431 AITO ABTA V1374
MALLORCA ALSO

## OVERSEAS TRAVEL

**THOMSON** LAKES & MOUNTAINS
Become a leaping gourmet.
Learn about food, wine & cookery in FRANCE and AUSTRIA for only £229.*
Phone 149 512 to request a brochure or call your local travel agent for details
*Twin HB 2* Hotel Logis at Gavarnie, Malcouzinc, Lake Gaube, Resp 27-12 May 98 from LGW. Flights also B'ham, Man, Neatle, Glas. Prices & availability correct at time of going to print. Thomson Tour Operators Ltd. ATOL 2284. ABTA V8126.

## CORSICA




## SPAIN

**CATALAN** Farmhouse, attractive rural hostlet nr sea. 17thcntb. Slps 4. Brochure. 01562 886779

**CATALONIA/COSTA BRAVA.** Best selection s/c villas & apts with pools and hotels. Spanish Harbour 0117 986 0777.

**GUIDED** & Independent walking in Andalucia, the Pyrenees & unknown corners of Mallorca. Great food, friendly hotels. Tel Headwater (01606) 813337 ATOL 2412 AITO.

## EASTERN EUROPE

**AUSTRIA**
8 Day Holidays to the spectacular Zillertal Valley in the Tyrol. Half board - no night travel
**£129**
Inghams Mountain Holidays
Brochures: 0121 711 4917

## SPECIAL INTEREST

**SOCIABLE** Singles 30-50 for fantastic Galileo cruises, 2 wks Aug Turkey, Peru 0121 5440990 (07) Lincs 01496 577776 (24).

## SWITZERLAND

**SHERPA EXPEDITIONS**
An unrivalled choice of walks & cycling tours. Go independently self guided, or join one of our escorted groups. Throughout Europe, In Britain, and even in Central Asia or the Himalayas
For a brochure 0181 577 7187

## SPECIAL INTEREST

**TENNIS** Holidays in the sun at The Jonathan Markham Algarve Tennis Centre. Beautiful location. All ages & standards. Also special weeks in Marrakech. 0171-440 0600 (24 hrs)

**JORDAN**
6 £795
*Syria, Egypt, Lebanon, Yemen, Ethiopia, Oman, India, Nepal*
JASMIN
*Escorted Journeys to the Near and Far East*
51-55 Balham Hill London SW12 9DR

**BRITTANY**
Cottages. Mobile homes on 4 star sites by the sea. Also 3 star hotels & activity holidays, including cycling & walking.
BRITTANY DIRECT HOLIDAYS
TEL: 0181 641 6060
ABTA V3262

## SPAIN

**COSTA BLANCA.** Moraira, 4-14 beds, stunning sea view, pool, garden. Beach 400m, slps 200m. Brochr 0034 6649 7151

**CATALONIA** Pyrenees hotels & city-breaks, villas & Monasteries 01252 844408 AITO/ATOL

**COSTA BLANCA** Private Villa, Pool, Gdn, Slps 8. Avail May-Aug. Details 01932 248196.

**JAVEA** near to Moraga, Costa Blanca, apartment, 2 double bedrooms, pool, cool, lovely garden. Tel: 01896 833072

**GREDOS** 45mn 2hrs Madrid. Walking, bird watching, picturesque villages, also lively night life. 3 bed hse + gdn. 01603 872498.

**LA MANGA CLUB.** Half price golf. Luxury villa and pool. Attractive prices. 01752 261893.

**MIJAS** Private villa, 3 chl beds, 3 baths, panoramic views, pool, lge terrace & gdns. 0171 352 2292 (eves)/0222 9271 (day)

**MIJAS** luxury home, 3 double beds/bath, Pool. Magnificent views. 5 mins walk to village. Summer only. 00 34952 486014

**MORAIRA** C. Blanca. Lux villa. 4 dbl bds, 3 bths, lge din rm, patio, a/pool, air conditioning. Sat. Avail, now. 0171 937 3951.

**NERJA** 2 beachside villas, each has accomodation for 10. Ideal for 2 families. Shared pool. Sat nav. From £250 per week. Tel: 01249 378393.

**NERJA** Pretty Andalucian style house, slps 2-4. Quiet conservation location nr Burriana Beach. Lge pool, fr £170pw. Broch. 01159 224197.

**NERJA** Villa sleeps 4. Superb views. Shared pool. Sat nr. From £250pw. Tel: 01636 741384.

**SOTOGRANDE** 15 mins Gibraltar Airport. River house sleeps 6/7, 2 baths, 1 shower. Near golf, beach clubs. £600-£800pw. Tel: 01868 514171

**SOTOGRANDE** 3 bed, 2 bath balcony flat, hill view, pool. £240/360pw 01737 249643.

**SPANISH COLLECTION**
Andalucia, Castilla La Mancha
Distinctive and exceptional country properties with private pools in wonderful rural locations and in exclusive Sotogrande.
**01403 259788(24hrs)**
ILIOS TRAVEL ABTA ATOL 1452

**INDIVIDUAL TRAVELLERS**
**SPAIN**
Traditional country houses, villas and apartments many with pools in rural Spain & Portugal.
FREE COLOUR BROCHURE
RING (0990) 143682
QUOTE ES184
ATOL 2431

## SPECIAL INTEREST

**SKYROS** The Holistic Experience. In Greece and the Caribbean. Tel: 0171 284 3065 or www.skyros.com/

**planning the trip of a lifetime?**
head to
**Independent Traveller's World '98**
The world's most imaginative travel companies
• Free Travel Talks • Travel Guides • Adventure Equipment • Free Questions
Entry from £3
ITW hotline – 0171-341 6691 internet – www.itw.co.uk
THE INDEPENDENT INDEPENDENT
London Olympia Exhibition Centre 26-28 February 1998
Bristol Marriott Royal Hotel 7-8 February 1998
Manchester G-Mex Centre 21-22 February 1998

**KE Adventure Travel INDIA**
• Trekking • Climbing • Cultural Tours • Mountain Biking
Exploratory holidays to Ladakh, Zanskar, Spiti, Garhwal & Sikkim.
Tel: 017687 73966
kindnature@enterprise.net

**DIVE!**
*Experience the exotic world beneath the waves*
Our extensive collection of worldwide dive holidays is for beginners & experts alike. Learn to Dive in the clear warm waters of the Red Sea. Dive the shipwrecks of Truk Lagoon, the beautiful coral gardens of Maaldo and many places in between.
*Red Sea from £244*
*Maaldo form £720*
Call for info & your brochure
01753 681999
Limbrick Travel

## SPECIAL INTEREST

**WARM** Winter guided walks with Spectacular views. EWA Transpennine Expeditions 0115 969 3643 or fax direct: 00342237933 Apt 243 TTA 84522

**Cycling & Walking Holidays**
Leisurely tours through beautiful forests & the Black Forest. Hand picked hotels. Bicycles provided. Luggage transported.
Brochure from: Route Bicycle & Walking Tours (HT) The Blue Cross, Cricket, Ludlow, Shropshire, SY8 4HN
01568 780 800

**Small group holidays off the beaten track...**
MIDDLE EAST AFRICA ASIA EUROPE FAR EAST AMERICAS
01420 541007
TRAVELBAG Adventures

**JOURNEY LATIN AMERICA**
Escorted Groups & Bespoke Tours
0181 747 8315
Or.
0161 832 1441
sales@journeylatinamerica.co.uk. ABTA V2522 ATOL 2828 IATA AITO

**Experience the Unexpected**
*Discover the unique experience of a small group adventure!*
• Wildlife Safaris • Trekking Expeditions
• Sailing Adventures • Jungle Exploration
• Cultural Touring • Wilderness Experience
*For our 100 page colour brochure call*
**01252 344161**
*Please quote Reference SAT*
*Explore Worldwide Aldershot, GU11 1LQ. www.explore.co.uk*
AITO/ATOL 2595
EXPLORE worldwide

**TURKEY**
VERN. BV Conservation area by sea. Trad. English run a/c cottages slp 4-8. 01254 336451

**TURKEY**
Private country houses with swimming pools, traditional Ottoman houses & hotels in unrivalled locations.
Turbo, Tunguisla, Gokova, Turkoise & Yalikavak.
01403 259788(24hrs)
ILIOS TRAVEL ABTA ATOL 1452

**TURKEY '98**
*away from the crowds, closer to the country*
• Idyllic coastal villas
• Cabin Cruising
• Villas with pools
• Cappadocia & Mount Nemrut
• Two Centre & Tailor-made Holidays
Easter/Spring breaks available
DOLUNAY HOLIDAYS
01452 501975

**TENNIS**, Golf and leisure holidays in Spain, Algarve, Caribbean, Sports & Leisure Holidays Ltd 01794 500500 TTA 84522

**WALKING & Cycling** in unrelieved Europe. Fine food, hand-picked hotels, excellent value for money prices. Guided & independent options/ changes arrived for you. Tel Headwater (01606) 813364 AITO ATOL

**Simply Turkey**
*Escape the mainstream with our unique range of rural cottages, villas with private pools and friendly hotels. Plus our flexible 'Wandering' programme, special interest holidays, gulet cruising and Istanbul city breaks.*
**0181 995 9323**
ABTA V1337 ATOL 1922 AITO

## USA & CANADA

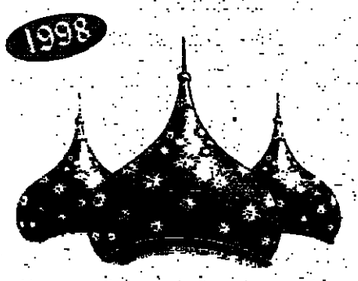
**BEST** rental prices for luxury private villas, apts & condos Florida South West Gulf coast & Orlando. For colour brochure and friendly service Florida Rentals 01822 855554

**NEW ENGLAND COUNTRY HOMES**
Coastal, lakeside and inland homes throughout New England.
FREE 116 PAGE BROCHURE
(0990) 143686 (24 Hrs)
Quote Ref. AI24.
ATOL 2523

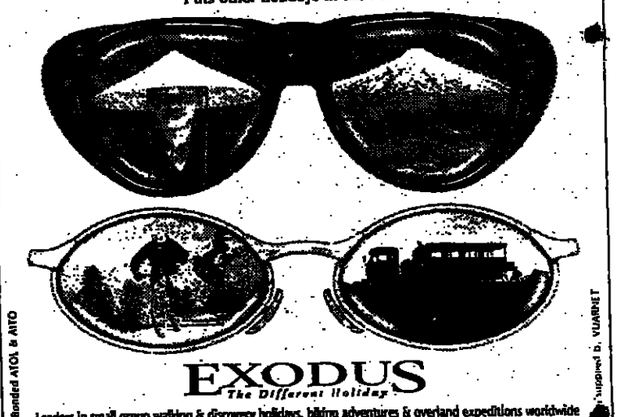
## SPECIAL INTEREST

**Experience the Unexpected**
*Discover the unique experience of a small group adventure!*
• Wildlife Safaris • Trekking Expeditions
• Sailing Adventures • Jungle Exploration
• Cultural Touring • Wilderness Experience
*For our 100 page colour brochure call*
**01252 344161**
*Please quote Reference SAT*
*Explore Worldwide Aldershot, GU11 1LQ. www.explore.co.uk*
AITO/ATOL 2595
EXPLORE worldwide

## RUSSIA

**TSAR GAZING.**
**RUSSIA FROM £369.**
1998

See our new 1998 brochure for bargain city breaks starting at just £369. Alternatively, you may wish to take a special twin centre city break to Moscow and St Petersburg, or an art and culture tour from £645. In 1998 make your ordinary holiday extraordinary. Visit Russia with the specialist, Intourist Travel. Call us now for more details.
LONDON 0171-538 8600 MANCHESTER 0161 834 0230 GLASGOW 0141 204 5809
Please send me more information on Intourist 1998 holidays.
Name
Address
Postcode
Intourist TRAVEL LIMITED
Now you can.

**Puts other holidays in the shade**



**EXODUS** The Different Holiday
Leaders in small group walking & discovery holidays, biking adventures & overland expeditions worldwide
9 Weir Road, London SW12 0LT. 0181 673 0859. http://www.exodustravels.co.uk

**BATTLEFIELDS**
of
The Boer & Zulu Wars
Superb, comprehensive itinerary
Departures 08 May & 31 July
full details from
Suite 5D, Parsonage Chambers
3 Parsonage, Manchester M3 2HF
Phone: (0161) 839 5158
Fax: (0161) 839 5260
E-Mail designerr@aol.com
**Designer** TRAVEL LIMITED
ABTA V4445 ATOL 2878

**CREATE YOUR PERFECT ITALIAN HOLIDAY**
Do as you like. When you like.
Have you like. See you like.
or call our 24 hour BROCHURE HOTLINE ON
**0990 437 227**
Quote Ref: T16
TRAILFINDERS

*Discover the wonder of Italy with*
**ITALIAN LIFE**
THE WIDEST RANGE OF VILLAS
TUSCANY · UMBRIA · VENETO · LAZIO · SICILY
FOR OUR LATEST BROCHURE CALL
**0990 673073**

**Citalia's Coach Tours**
8 Days from £775
*Choice of 4 superb Italian itineraries*
*Grand Tour of Italy - Heart of Tuscany*
*Heart of Umbria - Sicilian Carousel*
*Heathrow/Gatwick Departures March - October '98*
*Call now for a brochure quoting Ref: ST24*
**Citalia** 01235 824354
The Leading Italian Specialist ABTA V1666 ATOL 2521 IATA 80014770

هكذا من الاصل



## USA & CANADA

**BARBADOS** Florida Gulf Coast, 2 bed house, sleeps 6, own pool, golf and coast nearby, 90 mins Disney, avail from May £280 pw. Tel: 01708 732858.

**CANADA.** Rail tours, motor homes etc. Lakes & Mountains 01829 844606 ATO

**CAPE COD.** Superb 3 bedroom home, sleeps 8 with amenities galore, beaches, bike trails, golf, fishing, sailing. 2 hours to Boston. £800pw. Dublin 00 353 1 2878327

**DISNEY** 10 mins. Lux villas sleep 6/8, 3 beds, A/C. Relax hot tubs, locality. Resident Rep. £375pw. Tel: 01628 824604.

**DISNEY** 10 mins, Windsward Cay 3 bed lux villa, own hot pool, fr £260pw. Video. 01462 811964

**DISNEY** 5 mls 2 bed 2 bath hse, villa solar hot pool fr £395pw. Tel. owner 01778 426693.

**DISNEY.** A delightful hideaway, a showcase of facilities pool. Ideal location. 01423 547228.

**EBBLEWOOD** Florida. Lux 3 bed exec pool home, close beaches, shops. avlb: 01600 780670

**FLORIDA** prefers home to summer residential area. Immaculate, stunning, luxurious. Disney, golf, tennis, all amenities 15 min, 4 bedroom sleep 8. Heated 32' pool, full AC, furnished & equipped to highest standards. Don't book elsewhere until you have seen our full colour brochure - 01159 558833.

**FLORIDA** Luxury Apartment 2 bed/2 bath, Swimming pool, Free Golf at Tom Cat/Greenery club and tennis. Golf clubs in the area. 01229 513764

**FLORIDA** Gulf Coast, superb 2 bed, 2 bath villa. Lovely beaches, 1 hour Disney, pool, palms. Tel: 01572 360547

**FLORIDA** Boca Raton. Luxury townhouse, sleeps 6-8. £380 pw. Tel: 0161 928 7446

**GULF COAST** - Large executive homes with pools, sleep up to 12, fr £625pw. 01277 852628

**MONTANA/ Kalispell.** 20ml Glacier nat park. 1 bd apt fur fr £425pw. 001 406 755 1127. Email: mrlee@cyberport.net

**NEW ENGLAND** Connection. Inspected homes: Cape Cod, Vermont, Maine, New Hamps. 01306 877 500 for brochure.

**ORLANDO** Villa/pool nr Disney. Sips 6. Very Spacious. 0207 937 9876 for specials. 01883 744658

**SARASOTA/MIAMI, Fla.** Charming 2 bdrm apt, waterway views, pool, tennis, BBQs, nr beach. From £300pw. 01323 871276.

**NEW YORK.** New York - Apartments - Short stays. All Manhattan locations. Rates from £n to £n per night. The Apartments International 0171 935 3951.

## WINTER SKIING

**ALPE-Montvat.** Catered chalet. Inc gondola only £149pppw. Feb £179. 0181 653 3490.

**CALIFORNIA** Mammoth Mtn. house, sips 10, best location, ski skiing. Tel: 0181 7889487.

**CHATEL** Private Luxury Chalet. Sleeps 10+, S/C, rest, Jacuzzi, Sauna, Lingins. 01565 653284.

**CHAMONIX** Spacious, superior apt. 2 ips bdrms, liv rm, kitch, mont dishes. 01491 843377

**FR** 14-21 and other dates, Swiss alps. Chalet - apt., sips 5, nr Mont. Tel: 0181 893 9203.

**LAST** minute Avail: Feb 22-28. Superb chalet, sips 6+. Massive £690 lost. 01548 262256.

**LA TANIA** 3 Valleys. Large Duplex apt for 8. 3 beds, 2 bths. Lift 50m. Parking. 0118 9231525

**LES ARCS** 1800, apt for up to nine, sips 6&8, 2 bath, from £500pw. Tel: 01372 842462

**Ski From £149**

| Country | Resort | Date | Board | Price |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Slovenia | | | | |
| Spain | | | | |
| Austria | | | | |
| Andorra | | | | |
| France | | | | |
| Italy | | | | |

FOR THESE AND MANY MORE DEALS call Travelbase on **0181 466 7120**

ABTA D6200

Open Mon-Fri 8-9, Sat 9-5, & Sun 10-5

THOMSON

Call Now!

**LES ARCS** 1800. Sips 5. Wks 7/2 £350, 14/2, 28/2 £300; 7/3 £300. 01277 223267

**LES ARCS** S/C apts in beautiful chalet, sip 2/10. 0181 455 1897/00 39 479041398.

**RESERVE** Excellent double family apart, 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, TV, close Piste. 1+0151 6321924

**MERIBEL** Traditional catered chalet, sleeps 8, superb food, log fires, friendly atmosphere. Tel/Fax: 01252 845138.

**VAL D'ISERE** Lux apartment, all amenities, resid service, sleeps 4-6, £650pw. 0118 9744778

**VAL D'ISERE**, St Foy, Apts, Chalets, Doorstep skiing. Tel: 01773 853909 Fax:853911.

**VERBIER** pvt chalet, all en-suite. Early Feb & Easter avail, from £215 pp. 0041 27 771 4972.

**Don't pay too much for your ski-ye insurance**

**EXPRESS 8 days £22**

0171-375 0011

COLUMBUS

**SKI DRIVE** - abundant snow in French Alps, easy embarge, view www.travelmanuals.com Tel: 01229 464080 F 460 224835

**ST GERVAIS** / Megeve, 3 bed fam flat, sleeps 6+, Jacuzzi, skis 4-6. Sky sport in your chalet, video & TV/video. 01222 384441

## FRENCH ALPS

**Chalet for 6/8 people £130pp 7 days**

Traditional alpine village of La Clusaz. Easy access from road, rail or air. Friendly relaxed atmosphere.

For a brochure & a chat: 01202 765 995 Evenings: 00 33 45 08 25 839

## ALL THE BEST OF CANADA

All types of holidays: tours, cruises, city-breaks, outdoor excursions. All year round. Free colour Brochure.

All Canada Specialists

Phone 0990 434 434 Quote AC6767

## DESTINATION GOLF

**GREAT VALUE USA GOLF HOLIDAYS**

Florida, The Carolinas, Arizona & more!

0181-891 5151

## TAKE A LUXURY RIDE ON Canada's Rocky Mountaineer Train

**one of the world's most spectacular rail journeys**

11 nights from £1095 Departures in May & October 1998



Witness the stunning natural beauty of Western Canada on this remarkable tour by, coach and rail. Snow-capped mountain peaks and huge glaciers, the cosmopolitan Pacific coast city of Vancouver and the turquoise waters of Lake Louise are all included in the very comprehensive itinerary.

- Two whole days on the Rocky Mountaineer train
- The only train that travels through the Rockies all in daylight
- See Banff, Jasper, Lake Louise, Yoho and Glacier National Parks
- 4 nights in cosmopolitan Vancouver on the Pacific coast
- 10 nights hotel accommodation in Canada
- 1 night on the aircraft
- Scheduled flights from London
- Free coach travel to the airport from selected points



Rocky Mountaineer Railtours

**Book Direct on 0990 758 758** Call the brochure hotline on **0990 553 355** or return the coupon to: **Canada's Rocky Mountaineer**

PRIME TIME HOLIDAYS

Pate Court, North Place, Cheltenham, Glos GL50 4DY

A Division of Festive Holidays Ltd ABTA V106X ATOL 2172

Canada's Rocky Mountaineer

Please send me further details of this holiday offer

Name .....

Address .....

Postcode ..... Tel .....

☐ If you would prefer not to receive information and offers from other third parties, please tick here. DTRCRK

## WINTER SPORTS

**SANCTUARY** Grand Massif, 3BR or 4BR in Auberge, sleeps 8, pleiades, tel: 01347 892737

**SIMPLY SKI** - a superlative range of chalets in Val d'Isere, Courchevel, Meribel, La Plagne, Verbier and St. Anton. Excellent children facilities plus special offers on selected dates. Please call 0181 742 2641 or email: simply@enterprise.net or ABTA V1327 ATOL 1922 AITO.

**SKI DRIVE** - abundant snow in French Alps, easy embarge, view www.travelmanuals.com Tel: 01229 464080 F 460 224835

**ST GERVAIS** / Megeve, 3 bed fam flat, sleeps 6+, Jacuzzi, skis 4-6. Sky sport in your chalet, video & TV/video. 01222 384441

## WINTER SPORTS

**THE BEST SKIING IN FRANCE**

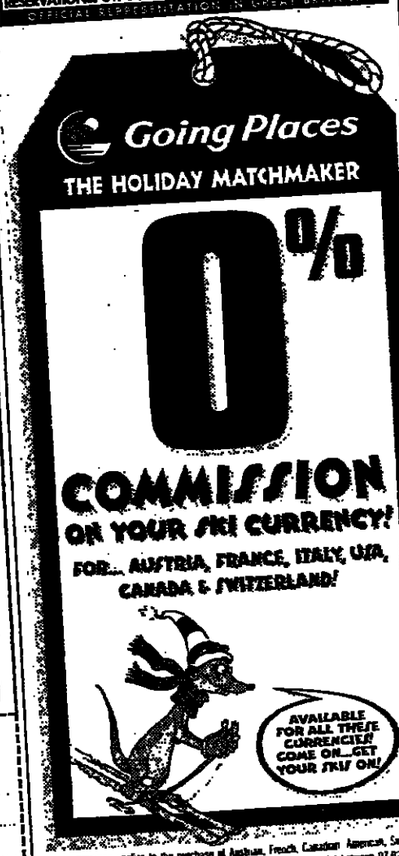
Now, just one shared lift pass provides unlimited access to 410km of extensive and unrivalled pistes throughout the La Plagne Les Arcs ski area.

La Plagne Les Arcs Erna Low

www.arnelew.co.uk

RESERVATIONS: 0171 584 2841 BROCHURE: 0171 584 7820

OFFICIAL REPRESENTATION IN GREAT BRITAIN




0% commission applies to the purchase of Austrian, French, Canadian Airpasses, Swiss and Italian currency only Travellers Cheques are not included Offer valid between 07.02.98 and 21.02.98. Offer not available in the following shops: RAF Alconbury, RAF Lakenheath, RSAF Glasgow and Sutton Coldfield

## U.K. HOLIDAYS

**classic cottages**

*Just for the discerning*

Free brochure featuring 350 selected West Country cottages

01326 565555

http://www.classic.co.uk

**Independent COTTAGES** Choice

First Choice for Over 600 Dream Cottages Throughout The UK!

01751 47 55 47

## U.K. HOLIDAYS

**Welcome COTTAGE HOLIDAYS**

AT OVER 1200 LOCATIONS

PRICES PER PROPERTY PER WEEK

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| • Scotland | from £107 | • Norfolk/Suffolk | from £114 |
| • Northumberland/Durham | from £142 | • West Country | from £117 |
| • Yorkshire Dales | from £109 | PETS GO FREE DISCOUNTS FOR 2 PERSONS FUEL DRIVEN ETC INCLUDED | |
| • Lake District | from £115 | | |
| • Peak District | from £136 | | |
| • Wales | from £107 | | |
| • Cotswolds | from £107 | • Ireland inc. ferry† | from £209 |

01756 702200

168 PAGE COLOUR BROCHURE

Lines open 9am-9pm Sun.-Fri. 9am-7pm Sat.

## U.K. COTTAGES from £94 per property

Scotland
Northumberland
Yorkshire Dales
Lake District
Peak District
Wales
East Anglia
Cotswolds
West Country

PETS GO FREE DISCOUNTS FOR 2 PERSONS

## IRISH COTTAGES from £209 (INCL. FERRY) per property

Donegal
Galway
Clare
Waterford
Wexford
Wicklow
Cork
Kerry

FERRY CROSSING 22 MINS

01756 702225

UK & EMERALD COTTAGE HOLIDAYS

108 PAGE COLOUR BROCHURE

## WINTER SPORTS

**Jetset** Freedom Breaks

SEE More OF BRITAIN & IRELAND

SHORT BREAKS & LONGER STAYS

Do what you like, where you like, when you like. See your local Jetset travel agent or...

...call 08706 090909

## Pets Welcome

HOSEASONS COUNTRY COTTAGES

Pets welcome - hundreds of cottages in superb walking country. Free colour brochure.

Phone 01502 502 603 Quote C4601

## English Country Cottages

AN UNRIVALLED choice of quality holiday cottages in England's loveliest areas. Free 436 page colour brochure.

RING (0990) 851111 QUOTE EM763 (24 Hrs)

OR WRITE: DEPT EM763, ENGLISH COUNTRY COTTAGES, P.O. BOX 18, EARL STERTON, LEICESTER LE9 8ZY.

## SHORT BREAKS

*A superb choice from the Scottish Highlands to Devon in over 50 destinations around Britain:*

London breaks • theatre packages • country house hotels • romantic weekends • Bank Holiday Longers • Weekenders • special interest breaks

**0345 585 707**

LOCAL CALL RATE, 24 HOURS

Call now for your FREE Thistle Hotels brochure. Book locally, or pick up a Thistle Break on a visit from your travel agent

THISTLE HOTELS

## total freedom

The freedom to do what you want, when you want.

Huge choice of cottages, lodges, farmhouses and holiday parks. Ideal for couples and families all year round.

BLAKES COTTAGES

CALL NOW FOR A BROCHURE quoting code DR8619

01455 85 25 45



HOSEASONS COUNTRY COTTAGES

Hand-picked cottages throughout Britain. Coastal and countryside. Free colour brochure.

Phone 01502 502 603 Quote C4599

## LODGES & HOLIDAY PARKS

Britain's widest choice. Lodges in quiet locations – or holiday parks with indoor pools and plenty to do. Free colour brochure.

Phone 01502 502 601 Quote H1862

HOSEASONS

Or write: Hoseasons Holidays, Dept H1862, Lowestoft, Suffolk NR32 2LW

## THE Best of both worlds.

All the luxury of a five star hotel but the freedom of your own countryside retreat at Wye Lea Country Manor, Herefordshire. Deluxe properties (sleeping two to six) in beautiful parkland location where facilities include indoor pool, spa, steam room, solarium, fitness centre, snooker, tennis & outdoor games with children's play areas. Bar/restaurant and private salmon fishing. Half Term avail. Col brochure 01989 562880.

## WATERSPORTS BEACH CLUBS

11 beautiful locations in Greece and Turkey, all with pools, great food and accomodation, free dinghy sailing, windsurfing, yachting, waterskiing, tennis and volleyball available at most clubs. From just £317pp 1 week flights inc. Call Sunsail on 01705 222 222 (24 hrs).

## HELPFUL HOLIDAYS

For West Country self - catering

Huge choice of over 450 cottages, bungalows, chalets & flats

Colour brochure

01647 433535

## ACTIVITY HOLIDAYS

**ACTIVITY** Hols for Families, Couples, Singles & Groups. Acorn Activities 01432 830083.

**BRIDGE** & Scrabble Weekends, Digger, Industrial Archaeology, Rural Surprises & Cultural Heritage Weekends. Acorn Activities 01432 830083.

**GOLF** for beginners, tennis for improvers, learn to drive, motor cycle training, learn to swim. Colour Brochure Acorn Activities 01432 830083

**PAINTING** & Pottery holidays, gourmet cooking, crafts, photography, decorative interiors, woodwork and garden design weekends. Call Acorn Activities 01432 830083

**SUFFOLK** Cycle Breaks. Quality holidays with full backup. W/e or longer Broch:01449 721556

**WHEELY WONDERFUL** Cycling & Walking holidays, Shropshire. Brochure. 01568 770755

**SAILING** & Windsurfing Holidays, White Water Rafting, Canoeing, Scuba Diving, Sailing & Waterskiing. Colour Brochure Acorn Activities 01432 830083.

## ACTIVITY HOLIDAYS

**for 8-18 year olds**

For FREE colour brochure FREEPHONE

0500 749147

www.pgl.co.uk

## LODGES & HOLIDAY PARKS

Britain's widest choice. Lodges in quiet locations – or holiday parks with indoor pools and plenty to do. Free colour brochure.

Phone 01502 502 601 Quote H1862

HOSEASONS

Or write: Hoseasons Holidays, Dept H1862, Lowestoft, Suffolk NR32 2LW

## Cornish COTTAGE HOLIDAYS

BROCHURE 01326 564992

ENQUIRIES 01326 573808

## Penrudduck

58 TOWER ROAD, CORNWALL, NEWQUAY. Friendly, family run guest house. 12 centrally heated en-suite rooms with TV. Quaint smugglers bar & lounge. Sky TV & video. Open March-October.

TEL: 01637 876677

## IT'S THE ONLY Brochure YOU'LL NEED

- Widest choice - Over 4,000 cottages to choose from throughout Britain
- 1000's of 1995 prices held. Holidays from £85 per week and £60 per Short Break per property
- Pets welcome at most cottages

CALL TODAY FOR YOUR 576 PAGE BROCHURE

Quoting Code DRC207

Country Holidays

01455 852 505

## Country Cottages in Ireland

A MAGICAL choice of delightful holiday properties in Cork, Kerry, Clare, Galway and Mayo. Free full colour brochure.

RING (0990) 851166 QUOTE GM333 (24 Hrs)

OR WRITE TO: COUNTRY COTTAGES IN IRELAND, DEPT. GM333, P.O. BOX 18, EARL STERTON, LEICESTER, LE9 8ZY.

## Cornish Traditional Cottages

Self-catering cottages on both coasts of Cornwall and on Scilly

For your FREE brochure

0990 134967

## CORNWALL & DEVON

**CORNWALL** Specialists. Choose from over 350 cottages. 01455 852606 (LRC205)

**CORNWALL & DEVON** 300 cottages throughout. Reasonable prices. Tel 01752 340711

**DEVON'S** Welcome Cottages. 1998 colour brochure. Phone now!! 01756 702203

**DEVON** Specialists. Choose from over 430 cottages. 01455 852506 (LRC208)

**FREE** Colour guide to the 500 best value cottages in Devon (01271) 376322

**LUXURY** waterside 3 bed hse, Falmouth, on exclusive marina development, all mod cons. 5 mins walk beaches, shops, pubs, trains. Tel: 01326 312848

**ISLES OF SCILLY** St Mary's. Traditional stone cottage, sleeps 6. Very comfortable family home incorporating heated indoor pool. Available June/Sept. 0171 4257148

**N CORNWALL** 17C luxury farmhouse, sleeps 10, avail from June. 01208 850376.

**HOUSESHOLE** family holiday cottage, sips 6, well equipped, centre of village. 01327 842529.

**OLD RECTORY** Romantic setting by creek. Imaginative breaks. From £25-£35 01752 822275.

**PADSTOW** 400 yards from harbour, small quaint terrace cottage, sleeps 2. Most weeks available. Tel: 0117 9681838

**POLPERRO** Just for 2 - luxury award winning SC barn set in 450 acres, N/S adults only. No pets. Tel: 01503 272219.

**ROCK** Cornwall 5 star prime beachfront 3 dble, 3 bath. 01208 862975

**PORT ISAAC** Fishing village. Sleeps 10. Beach, Cinema, Pub. Avail all year. 01264 830985

**PORT ISAAC** Fishermans cottage o/looks harbour sips 5, phing. £225-410pw. 01208 880355.

**SALCOMBE** Lge Penthouse, sips 12, 2 baths, secluded gdns, pets & kids welcome. 01548 843985

**SAUNTON** Warren cottages, sl 6 & 10, each 2 bath, pets welcome, nr beach 01736 893804.

**SLPS** 12 superb granite fm hse, Sth Cwall, refurb 96, pure lux, antiques, log fires, half acre, from £400pw, pets ok, col brochure. 01675 443366.

**W.DARTMOOR** spac secl cottage, wood burner CH. Superb walks. Incl rates. 01647 24259.

**THE FINEST** in Cornwall. English Country Cottages. Tel:0990 851111. REF EM2515.

## COTSWOLDS

**ROMANTIC COTTAGE.** Detached, secluded, tastefully furnished, 4-poster, deluxe rated. Colour brochure. 01386 871799

**ROSS-ON-WYE** Country House, sips 8+, secluded, lovely views. July / August. 01989 770148.

**STRATFORD** For the discerning 2 to 6 cotts in barn conv. Orig beams, splendid views sips 4+2 + cot N/S or pets. ETB 5 Key H/Commended 01925 604102

**THE FINEST** in the Cotswolds. English Country Cottages. Tel:0990 851111. REF EM2519

## DORSET, HANTS., & I.O.W.

**DORSET & New Forest Specialists.** Choose from over 220 cottages 01455 852505 (LRC210)

**WEST DORSET** Coastal Manor House, sleeps 10. Weeks & w/es. Tel: 01308 456288.

**THE FINEST** in Dorset. English Country Cottages. Tel:0990 851111. REF EM2516

**FEBRUARY SPECIAL**

3 nights from £79 Bed, Breakfast and Evening Meal

Large seafront hotel, entertainment, indoor pool, jacuzzi, sauna.

• FREE CAR FERRY •

Sandringham Hotel, Seafront, Sandown, Isle of Wight

Telephone 01983 406655

4-5 Nights March 889

## English Country Cottages

AN UNRIVALLED choice throughout Dorset. Free 43p page colour brochure.

RING (0990) 851111 REF EM762 (24Hrs)

## LANCASHIRE

**LYTHAM-ST-ANNES** Ameroi House, relax in Edwardian splendance taking in the panoramic views. Late breakfast a specialty. Tel: 01253 781511.

## LONDON

**SAVE** Up to 50% on your London hotel bills. Quality hotels. All centrally located, 2* to 5* from £28. 0181 770 0123 The Hotel Directory.

**KENSINGTON** Superior Serviced apartments. Tel: 0181 451 3094 Fax: 0181 459 4422.

## NORTHUMBRIA

**AMAZING** value Northumbria cottages. New 106 page colour broch. 01756 702232

**NORTHUMBRIA'S** Welcome Cottages. 1998 best ever colour brochure. 01756 702217

**HERITAGE** COAST 2 S/C cottages, Sips 5 & 6, Picturesque village. Brochure 01665 575825

**NORTHUMBERLAND** Park Cottages unexpectedly available from Feb 14th. 0181 398 0934

**NORTHUMBRIA** Specialists. Choose from over 180 cottages. 01455 852505 (LRC201)

**SUPERB** Cottages Northumbria, Whitby, Lakes, Peaks, Sykes Cottages 01244 345700.

## PEAK DISTRICT

**"PEAK COTTAGES"** Quality selection in Derbyshire, Lakes & Peaks. Brochure 01142 620777

**NR CHATSWORTH** Quality cottages, Sips 2-6. Excellent loc. 01246 591000/ 0114 2302737

**PEAK DISTRICT** Specialists. Choose from over 250 cottages 01455 852505 (LRC204)

## SCOTLAND

**AMAZING** value cottages in Scotland. New 106 page colour brochure. 01756 702230

## EIRE

**FLIGHT**, ferries, car hire, contact the Irish specialists. Tara Travel 0171 9786888 ABTA

**IRELAND** Specialists. Choose from over 110 cottages. 01455 852505 (LRC209)

**IRISH** Country Holidays. You can choose from over 200 delightful cottages. Also touring, hunting and horse drawn caravans. Special ferry discounts. For your free brochure call 01502 560688 (24 hrs)

## Country Cottages in Ireland

A MAGICAL choice of delightful holiday properties in Cork, Kerry, Clare, Galway and Mayo. Free full colour brochure.

RING (0990) 851166 QUOTE GM333 (24 Hrs)

OR WRITE TO: COUNTRY COTTAGES IN IRELAND, DEPT. GM333, P.O. BOX 18, EARL STERTON, LEICESTER, LE9 8ZY.

## EIRE

**LEISURE BREAKS** Farmhouses, BC House Riding, touring caravans, golf. By sea or air. ATOL 3536. All trained. 0151 734 5200

**SHAMROCK COTTAGES.** 286 select traditional cottages in superb locations. Disc Fares. AITO. Col Bro 01823 681060.

**VALENTIA** Island-Kerry. Idyllic cottage, stunning location, 3 beds, beaches. 0181 203 3162

**WEST CORK** Roscarbery On the waterfront exquisite bungalow, many extras, vacancies from St. Patrick's weekend (No July/Aug). Sips 7. 00 353 2821030.

## HOLIDAYS AFLOAT

**BRITAIN'S** best self drive narrowboat holidays. Widest choice. Beginners very welcome. Tel: 01905 726626.

**BLAKES** HOLIDAY BOATING IN BRITAIN AND ABROAD BOOK NOW ONLY £50 INITIAL PAYMENT

PHILIP AGIA BOARDED

PLEASE QUOTE ID: 3010

DIAL A BROCHURE ANYTIME

01603 784458

## BOATING in BRITAIN

The widest choice. The Norfolk Broads, Canals, River Thames and Wey, the Fens and Scotland Free colour brochure.

Phone 01502 502 602 Quote BT442

HOSEASONS

## BOATING in Ireland

SAVE AROUND 30% ON IRISH CRUISES WITH CURRENT EXCHANGE RATES

There has never been a better time to cruise the hundreds of miles of Ireland's quiet and majestic rivers, canals and loughs. Explore and enjoy Ireland's unique culture and cuisine to your hearts content.

For your FREE 1998 colour brochure FREEPHONE 0800 163276 or send to IBRA FREEPOST (OF 2442) Wantage OX12 8BR

The Irish River Boat Association

## LAKE DISTRICT

**AMAZING** value Lake District cottages. New 106 page colour brochure. 01756 702229

**CUMBRIAN COTTAGES.** 200 Lakeland cottages. ETB inspected. New Brochure available. 01228 599960

**LAKE DISTRICT** Welcome Cottages. 1998 colour brochure. 01756 702208

**LAKE DISTRICT** Specialists. Choose from over 320 cottages 01455 852505 (LRC203)

**LANGDALE** 3 & 4 bed luxury houses, inc leisure club with pool. 0161 904 9445.

**WASDALE** s/c cottages in 7 acres. Winter breaks, Oct, Sips 2-4 and 5-7. 019467 26233

**LUXURY** pine lodges for hire on the shores of Lake Windermere, Whitewater Bay Leisure Park & Marina. Bar, restaurant and shop facilities. For brochure telephone 015394 43937

**THE FINEST** in the Lakes. English Country Cottages. Tel:0990 851111. REF EM2517.

## NORTHUMBRIA

**AMAZING** value Northumbria cottages. New 106 page colour broch. 01756 702232

**NORTHUMBRIA'S** Welcome Cottages. 1998 best ever colour brochure. 01756 702217

**HERITAGE** COAST 2 S/C cottages, Sips 5 & 6, Picturesque village. Brochure 01665 575825

**NORTHUMBERLAND** Park Cottages unexpectedly available from Feb 14th. 0181 398 0934

**NORTHUMBRIA** Specialists. Choose from over 180 cottages. 01455 852505 (LRC201)

**SUPERB** Cottages Northumbria, Whitby, Lakes, Peaks, Sykes Cottages 01244 345700.

## YORKSHIRE'S DALES, MOORS and COAST

Self-catering holiday properties in rural & coastal locations from Ilkley, Bronte & Herriot country to the Coast

Dales Holiday Cottages 01756 790919

## PEAK DISTRICT

**"PEAK COTTAGES"** Quality selection in Derbyshire, Lakes & Peaks. Brochure 01142 620777

**NR CHATSWORTH** Quality cottages, Sips 2-6. Excellent loc. 01246 591000/ 0114 2302737

**PEAK DISTRICT** Specialists. Choose from over 250 cottages 01455 852505 (LRC204)

## SCOTLAND

**AMAZING** value cottages in Scotland. New 106 page colour brochure. 01756 702230

## SCOTLAND

**ARGYLL** Holiday cottages to let at Port Appin. Loch house sips 4-6, cottage sips 4, both very comfortable and well equipped. CR. Brochure. 01631 730228

**ISLE OF SKYE** Croft cottage, views, sips 4 + 1, avail Easter on. 01323 423140.

**FORT WILLIAM** 15 miles. Comf secluded loch-side house. Sips 8. Boats for fishing and sailing. From £350 pw. 0131 5570916.

**LUXURIOUS** 18C Restored farmhouse, situated on hillside near Pitlochry. Sips 8, 2 lounges. Steam room and jacuzzi. 2 bath. Fully equipped kitchen (many gadgets). Stunning views over Loch Tummel. Tel: 0131 3371394 or 0131 5513085.

**PERTHSHIRE** Loch Tay superbly equipped log chalet - sauna TV carpets. N/S, sips 2 spectacular views, fishing ideal for hill walking water sports and tranquility. 01887 830210.

**POOLEWE/WESTER ROSS** Luxury modern bungalows, sips 6. Close to Inverewe Gardens. Brochure Tel/Fax:01445 781454

**PORT APPIN** Argyle. Architect designed lochside house, stunning panoramic views, 4 bedrooms, sleeps 6-8. Tel: 01342 870701

**ROSEMOUNT** Blairgowrie Newly refurb mid-terrace. Fishing, golf, sips 6. £480pw. 01250 875742

**SCOTLAND'S** Welcome Cottages. 1998 colour brochure. Phone Now!! 01756 702213

**SCOTLAND** Specialists. Choose from over 550 cottages. 01455 852505 (LRC202)

**SKYE** Large lochside hse sips 18-26, cosy seaside cottage sips 3-4. Tel/Fax: 01470 521445

**SELECTION** of self catering cottages. Rossater Cottages, brochure/ details 01899 308543

**ST ANDREWS** 25 quality cottages. Sips 2 to 14. Colour Brochure. Phone: 01382 330252

HOSEASONS COUNTRY COTTAGES

Hand-picked cottages throughout Scotland. Coastal and countryside. Free colour brochure.

Phone 01502 502 603 Quote C4600

## Country Cottages in Scotland

EXCEPTIONAL holiday properties in the most beautiful areas of Scotland

FREE 96 PAGE COLOUR BROCHURE

RING (0990) 851133

QUOTE SM414 (24 Hrs)

OR WRITE TO COUNTRY COTTAGES IN SCOTLAND, DEPT. SM414, P.O. BOX 18, EARL STERTON, LEICESTER LE9 8ZY.

## SURREY & SUSSEX

**BRICKWALL HOTEL** Battle. 1600 Tudor Manor. 2 night breaks £99pp DB&B, 3rd night accom free, pay only £30 for dinner, breakfast. 3* AA & RAC Best Award 97/98. 01424 870263

## WALES

**BRECON** Beacons. Over 100 s/c cottages some sleep 20. Many less than £250 per night season. Short lets avail 01874 676446

**BEAUTIFUL** country properties around splendid Welsh coast. Log fires. Linen provided. Pets welcome Free. Call for Colour brochure Quality Cottages 01348 837873

**WALES** Specialists. Choose from over 370 cottages. 01455 852505 (LRC206)

**PEMBROKESHIRE.** 2 nights for the price of 1 night until Easter the price of 1 night until Easter 852pp DBB. Edwardian Country House. 3 Crowns Highly Commended. Close Nat Park Coastal Path 1 mile Irish Ferry. Chef/Owner 01348 872844.

PEMBROKESHIRE COAST & COUNTRY COTTAGES

A superb selection of quality character cottages in the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park. All properties furnished to the highest standards.

Phone now for free colour brochure 01239-881397 (24hr)

Stop collecting brochures... *Start collecting memories*

450 luxury cottages voted "Best in Wales" with a welcome as warm as the sunshine

Coastal Cottages of Pembrokeshire

Tel: 01437 765765

## Welsh Country Cottages

AN UNRIVALLED choice in the best areas of Wales. Free 68 page colour brochure.

RING (0990) 851122

REF. WM324 (24Hrs)

## WILTSHIRE

**17th C** beamed cottage midway Bath/Salisbury, comfortable and fully equipped, open fire, grds. Sips 5. 0171 2358913.

## YORKSHIRE

**AMAZING** value Yks Dales cottages. New 106 page colour broch. 01756 702231

**COTTAGES** Yorkshire including Yorkshire Dales & Moors. Highly acclaimed Full Col.Broch. 01845 597430.

**SUPERB** Cottages, York Dales, Northumbria, Lakes, Peaks, Sykes Cottages 01244 345700.

**YORK** City Centre. Nov-March £20 pp B&B £30pp DB&B. Supplement for singles/races. All inclusive facilities. Car park. Abbots Mews Hotel 01904 634866.

**YORK** Lux 1 bed flat, river views, sips 2+, city centre, parking. Avail fr Easter. 01904 400084.

**YORKSHIRE** Dales Welcome Cottages. 1998 colour brochure. 01756 702209

**YORKSHIRE** Specialists. Choose from over 280 cottages. 01455 852505 (LRC211)

## SCOTLAND

**5 STAR EDINBURGH**

***** AT *****

**FRINGE PRICES**

£300 PER COUPLE buys 2 nights of weekend luxury in the heart of one of Europe's most beautiful capitals. Including full Scottish breakfast plus dinner with wine on one night in the hotel's stylish Terrace Restaurant. The offer* closes on 31st March 1998. So book now by dialling freephone **0800 35 35 35** quoting SURE V.

* SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY

Sheraton Grand HOTEL EDINBURGH ITT Sheraton

## CANADIAN ROCKIES AND VANCOUVER



As the acknowledged leaders in escorted holidays to Canada, you might expect that we offer more tours with more choice of departure dates than any other British holiday company. But what really makes us unique is our attention to detail and service from choice of itineraries to knowledgeable tour managers and we include the things we know you will want to see rather than selling them as expensive "optional" excursions. With such a joyful experience as Canada to look forward to, we would not want you to be disappointed. That is why we suggest you consult our brochure first.

- Spectacular journeys through the Rockies between Vancouver and Calgary including Mount Robson and Columbia Icefield.
- Two nights in Jasper with a visit to the idyllic Maligne Lake.
- Explore the Okanagan Valley with an included winery visit.
- Cruise to Vancouver Island and stay in a fine harbourside hotel with a tour of Victoria and visit to Butchart Gardens.
- Three nights in the captivating ocean-front city of Vancouver.
- Stay in Banff, North America's loveliest small town. Included visits to Lake Louise and Victoria Glacier.

**14 DAYS FROM £1145**

Enjoy Our VIP Local Departure Service Offered Free From Over 1100 UK Points On All Dates Or Choose Our Option Of Connecting Domestic Flights To London From Belfast, Dublin, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Jersey/Guernsey, Leeds/Bradford Or Teesside Subject To Availability Or Fly From Glasgow or Manchester Airports Direct On Selected Departures.

To receive your brochure and details of how to book, please call our 24 hour brochure hotline quoting reference TI0697 or return the coupon below.

**01737 760033**



Please send me your brochure for the following (please tick) TI0698

Canadian Rockies & Vancouver ☐ Canada ☐ USA/Canada East Coast Glory ☐ USA Sunshine States ☐ Australasia ☐ South Africa ☐ Thailand ☐ Europe & Scandinavia ☐ Cruise & Tour ☐

NAME .....

ADDRESS ..... POSTCODE .....

Titan Travel Ltd. HiTours House, 26-30 Holmethorpe Avenue, Redhill, Surrey RH1 2NL

OFFICE OPENING HOURS

Monday and Tuesday 9am-7pm
Wednesday to Friday 9am-6pm
Saturday 9am-5pm
Sunday 10am-3pm

2850 ABTA

Titan HiTours

*Our Service Makes a World of Difference!*

## TO RESPOND TO AN ADVERTISER...

**...BY VOICE MAIL** When responding to an advertiser call 0897 505 563 (*calls cost £1.00 per minute*) and then follow the simple voice instructions.

All advertisements in Rendezvous have the T symbol, indicating that the advertiser has the facility for you to leave him/her a voice message.

Valentine's

**...BY POST**

All postal replies should be addressed to Box No. ..... c/o The Times, P.O. Box 3553, Virginia Street, London E1 9GA.

THE TIMES

### SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS

**ABSURDANCE** of stunning ladies - shortage of nice men! Candlebrunners has some super chaps already but you get snapped up very quickly so we always need more. Personal introductions and Enchanted Evenings for attractive, professional people. Please call Cheryl Brown 0171 361 5535 Est 1990

**ACROSS THE ROOM** (Herts, Essex, Suffolk). Sparkling Parties, Candlelit dinners. 01277 362742 for brochure

**ALL** the good ones are not taken! Find them at Dovetail Introductions Tel. 0171 483 3377

**ALONE?** Don't be! Join Country-wide Unattached Register. 01993 822868 for brochure.

**AMERICANS** seek romance & marriage with British ladies & gentlemen - all ages! English Rose & English Connection. Tel: 01843 863232 or Fax: 01843 863846 (24 hrs)!!

**BATH** Exeter S Wales "Executive Club at Bristol" - quality introductions & social events. Caroline 0117 922 5877

**BEAUTIFUL** Thai Ladies. Colour brochure. Siam Introductions. Tel: 01689 860 680 (anytime)

**BROMLEY,** Bexley, S.E. London, Dartford, Gravesend. Looking for that special person? Call Elite any time 0181 658 7576

**CONNEXIONS** is the friendship club that puts single Christians in touch with each other. Ring us on 0181 906 4467.

**ESSEX and Suffolk 'Elite'.** Quality ladies and gentlemen specially seeking a long term meaningful partner. They are only a phone call away. Tom 0800 497776

**HOLIDAY** partner friendship service from United Travellers tel 01428 722833 (24 hours)

**MIDLANDS** attractive professionals meet through extensive social calendar. Exclusive Co 07071 71177L/0121 711 7717

**NEWCASTLE/Durham/Teesside** Find someone special with Elite: julia/ian 01670 505123

**NO** Time To Wait! Find your Valentine's date. 4 Immediate introductions (Plus One Year Membership) £79.95 only Matchmakers International 2, Norfolk Crescent, London W2 2DH. Tel/fax 0171 706 3891

**PARTY** Tonight! Attractive people animated wine £20 Russell Sq WC1 0171 383 3339

**PLUMP PARTNERS** National Dating Agency. If you are plump or prefer a plump partner ring 01352 715909.

**RUSSIAN** ladies, attractive & sincere, seek romance/ marriage. IFM. Tel: 01708 476697.

**SHREWSBURY** Shropshire Mid Wales You'll be surprised how local we are Elite 0800 003444

**SINGLES A LA CARTE** New concept for singles 40+, combines dining & introductions. London/Counties. Join for Valentines Night 0181 994 4278

**SINGLES PARTIES** Covent Garden. Every Thursday. Ages 30-50. From £20.00. 0171-836 3070.

**STANLEY MANN** entertains London's leading singles Social Club using the finest venues. Join us for a Valentines Night cocktail party on Saturday Feb 14th at Premier West End Nightclub. We are also offering free 3 month membership. Contact Christine 0171 491 2949

**SURREY/W Sussex** attractive and successful local introductions with Elite 01883 744405

**THE DINNER CLUB** (Est.'86) Join UK's largest up-market singles dining club and enjoy dining, dancing, weekends away, holidays abroad (01244) 548816

**'THIS PICTURE** Dating idea is brilliant' Capital Radio, call for details 0171 839 8884 (day) 0181 297 1424 (anytime) AMA

**WESTCOUNTRY** Elite. Somerset Devon Cornwall Quality Introductions call 0800 214920

**YORKSHIRE** Humberside probably The No 1 Personal Introduction & Social Events Service in your area. Elite Introductions Freecall 0500 525240

**THE RICHMOND & S.W. LONDON DINING CLUB**

The civilised way to meet single professional people.

Tel: 01635 44157

"DOYENNE OF MATCHMAKERS..."
**KATHARINE ALLEN**
Marriage Bureau
*Established 1960*
18 Thayer St.
London W1M 5LD
0171 935 3115

**ALL BOX NUMBER REPLIES SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO:**
Box No...
c/o THE TIMES NEWSPAPERS LTD
P.O.BOX 3553
VIRGINIA ST
LONDON E1 9BL

dovetail
- Individual Personal Introductions
- Professional and Business Members

London, Surrey, Sussex, South East and M4 Corridor
0171 483 2377

### LADIES

**ADVENTUROUS,** passionate, slim, 50's, own home/ income, family married, seeks cheerful professional guy under 65 to love forever. London/South East Bx 9961

**ASCOT** + Salisbury Elite SP serve. Yes, we have people like you at 07000 781 981 call now 24 hrs

**ATTRACTIVE,** brunette, 37, slim, 5'7, professional, n/s, feminine, sporty, sensuous, seeks relationship with prof n/s man 36 - 48. Box no 9893

**BEAUTIFUL** charismatic, successful, fun-loving blonde, 47, seeks wonderful, wise, warm-hearted guy, over 60, preferably retired. Box No 9867

**BRIGHTON** 'Elite'. For introductions in Sussex call Nigel on 01273 270975 Anytime

**BRISTOL/Bath** area. For local, professional introductions call Chris at Elite: 0117 973 6663

**BROMLEY,** Bexley, S.E. London, Gravesend. Gentlemen over 50? Call Elite for details of our special rates. 0181 658 7576

**CALL** Birmingham 'Elite' now - Gentlemen! Over 500 attractive, local ladies Contact Diana 0121 323 3314 7 days

**40** but never frumpy! Independent but not intimidating, gardening & cuddling, a country lover who loves the city, seeks attractive, sensitive man with a difference. If you live within reach of SO 558 903 take the plunge. Box No 9700

**CLASSY,** cosmopolitan, creative, petite redhead, 40's, WLTM tall, attractive male, 45-55, successful, solvent, sincere with a sense of adventure for fun romance. London/Surrey/Heats area. Box No 9772

**CLUB ENCOUNTERS.** London and M4 Corridor. 0800 141 141.

**COUNTRY** lady, GSOH, outskirts WACK. Young 50's, sons flown the nest, needs a break from the dogs company, would like to meet a n/s business man for occasional night to pub, cinema, shows. Other interests: F.1. racing, football, horses. Please reply with photo & letter to Box No 9850

**EXQUISITE** & luscious English rose who is blond & blue eyed but in her middle 40's. Affectionate, sensual, tactile & sensitive but also vivacious, amusing & well educated. WLTM a man between 45 & 60 who is kind, humorous, intelligent & charming for a lasting relationship & new beginning. S. England. Photo. Box 9945

**FOR** an exclusive introduction service to exceptional ladies Tel Dovetail 0171 483 3377

**FREE** membership to men 40+ joining our Valentines Dinner London/Counties. Singles A La Carte 0181 994 4278

**GENUINE** Thai ladies wishing to meet genuine English gentlemen. Call Terry Williams on 01763 262134 and meet me for a cup of tea and a chat about the facts.

**GORGEOUS** red head, 35, witty, intelligent, successful and honest, seeks kind and considerate male 30s-40s with varied interests and London location. Reply Box 9765

**HIGHLY** intelligent, professional lady, 57, attractive, refined, slim, blond, cultured, elegant, solvent, loves classical music/ science/ bridge/ skiing & discussing/ writing & dinner/ winters abroad. Seeks special, like minded gentleman, GSOH. Sussex/Surrey/Kent. Box 9777

**INDIVIDUAL** introductions to genuine & discerning ladies in London/Surrey - Dovetail 0171 483 3377 or 01932 783165

**INTELLIGENT,** attractive, rather lonely lady with diverse interests, performing arts, domestic & outdoor pursuits, seeks sophisticated professional gentleman, n/s, GSOH, tolerant outlook, 55-65, London & SE Coast area. Box No 9521

**LIVELY,** attractive, professional lady, 31, loves to Dance, loves golfer who enjoys cinema, travelling, evenings in & out, romance for fun loving male, 27 - 37, for friendship & hopefully romance. Please Reply with photo to Box No 9846

**LIVELY,** intelligent lady, good-looking with many interests and loads of personality, seeks successful, sincere gentleman, n/s, 55-65, to have a good time with. London area. Box 9886

**LONDON** 'Elite' the One to One Introduction Agency for businesses and professional people. For a quality personal service Call Elite 0171 637 7171

**MEN,** why write to one when you can meet hundreds of eligible, beautiful women by calling Club Encounters free on 0800 141 141.

**NOTTS/Leics/Lincs/Derbys** 'Elite' Valentines by the score - all seeking attractive, articulate men, all ages - join them you won't be disappointed. Valentine is what it's for. Call Elite now 0115 937 6104 for free info pack

**MELDLY** Jewish, successful, attractive, intelligent, cosmopolitan, cultured interests, WLTM successful cultured man 40-50, London. Photo appreciated. Please Reply to Box No 9854

**SINCERE,** sexy and solvent! Seeking similar sophisticates for fun, stimulating soirées. 40-50. 2 Anglia. Photo please.Bx 9881

**PROFESSIONAL,** attractive brunette, 35; a deep thinker who needs space but values companionship, seeks tall, sensitive, caring man, 30-45, solvent, to share romance, travelling, country walks & life's ups & downs. Oxon/ Cotswolds. Photo & letter to Box No 9799

**SLIM** elegant lady, SOH, many interests, free as a bird seeks chivalrous man 55-75 to soar with her. Sussex. Letters copy Reply to Box 9832

**SLIM,** smart widow, 60s, when casting, scalware, n/s great, 64+, London, shun life, travel, music. Box No 9778

**SPORTY,** attractive, slim, mature lady, likes golf/ bridge/ tennis/ dancing. WLTM intelligent, caring gent, GSOH. Box 9750

**SWEET NATURED,** slim, attractive blonde, 44, hopes to meet tall, capable, amusing gentleman. Surrey/Hants area. Letters preferred. ALA. Box No 9720

**VALENTINE'S DAY** is every day at Club Encounters! Call today on 0800 141 141.

**VENEZUELAN** lady, 42, attractive, slim, warm, sensual, single parent. Midlands. Seeks romance with successful gentleman,38-48.Photo.Bx 9852

**VERY** attractive professional woman, young 39, slim, athletic. Loves good food, books, cinema & the Smiths. Seeks kind, optimistic, humorous man, 30-40, with the hope of forming a fulfilling long term relationship. West Yorkshire and beyond. Box No 9855

**VERY** attractive Asian female, sensual, GSOH, varied interests, with young child, looking for sincere, professional gentleman, 28-46, Box 9776

**VIVACIOUS,** warm, attractive, humorous, professional woman, 41, seeks a man with similar qualities, age 40-50, reqular London based. Letters only please. Box No 9699

**WE** have many beautiful Russian women who are interested in meeting with you. Ukrainian Club 0181 447 0335

**WICKED** humour, unveiled, educated, London, 40, WLTM lt you've found the need less unveiled & are as happy with the poorest as the richest.Bx 9647

**43** year old professional female. Christian. Divorced. 5'7", blond & slim, WC1M caring, professional male. Box No 9892

**Zzzzz,** wake up! Club Encounters is open every day. Call us now free on 0800 141141.

**TALL,** slim, blue-eyed, strawberry-blonde 30s, seeks genuine, single professional man 30s for London party with her female 30something single friends. If you'd like to take part in a blind date with a difference, write with photo to Box No 9655

**SLIM,** elegant lady, many interests, lovely home, financially secure, seeks outdoor, warm, humorous professional gentleman 45+. Photo appreciated. London/ Surrey. Box No 9604

**TRADITIONAL** values, very attractive, n/s Surrey lady, fancy-pants, cultured, kind, well travelled, WSOH, likes sports, bridge, antiques, country walks, fine dining etc. WLTM prof. gentleman (50-65) of quality & integrity for lasting relationship. Genuine replies only. Box No 9679

### SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS

DOCTORS • ARCHITECTS • BANKERS • ACCOUNTANTS
ADVERTISING • WRITERS • MARKETING • STOCKBROKERS • EDUCATIONALISTS
MEDIA • COMPANY DIRECTORS • LAWYERS • PR

drawing down *the* moon
THE ORIGINAL PERSONAL INTRODUCTION AGENCY

Probably the *best* agency in the world

0171-937 6263

*Head Office*
Adam & Eve Mews, Kensington
*City Office:* Cannon Street
24 hours. Member ABIA Est 1984

### SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS

VIRGINIA CHARLES

*The exclusive introduction agency for people of quality and integrity*

*The Old Brewery, Burford, Oxfordshire OX18 4SG*

*Telephone 01993 824500*

LONDON AND NATIONWIDE

### SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS

**THE TIMES** cannot guarantee that respondents will receive a reply when responding to advertisements on this page, although we hope that as a matter of courtesy they will. Where meeting people for the first time it is advisable to meet in a public place and let a member of your family or a trusted friend know where you will be. We would advise readers and advertisers to exercise caution when giving out personal details. This will be respected by genuine respondents

**THE ULTIMATE VALENTINES PARTY**
IN A TOP LONDON NIGHTSPOT
Saturday 14th February
Our parties are famous for low food, fabulous music and hot people.
If you are single, 20 - 45, attractive and successful, you should be there!
Circles
Tel: 0181 426 9168

Sara Eden
"A stunning success rate... Countless long term relationships"
MAIL ON SUNDAY
Windsor 01753 830350 London 0171 499 9626
Eden House • 8 Thames Street • Windsor • SL4 1PE

31a St James's Square, London SW1V
Hedi Fisher's EXECUTIVE CLUB *for quality*
JEWISH
● Personal introductions ● Dinner Parties
0181 203 4661
54-58 High Street, Edgware HA8 7EJ

### SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS

**MUSIC LOVERS**
Classical Partners
"Astonishingly successful" Daily Telegraph & BBC Radio 3
The Natural way to meet someone special individually or at our own musical supper evenings
VALENTINES DAY CONCERTS/SUPPER in London & Oxford
0181 903 0211 (Office) 01923 855826 (Wheatsh Members Nationwide

### SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS

1a Village Square, Brighton Marina
The EXECUTIVE Club at
BRIGHTON Marina
*For Introductions in Sussex*
01273 818100

**Country Partners**
A truly interesting life changing experience when you join this highly confidential, professional Introduction Bureau.
Sensible membership fee
Age range 27 to 80
Call Heather Dalton Parry
01432 342274
ABIA

### SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS

Elite
LONDON
THE NO.1 INTRODUCTION SERVICE FOR BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL PEOPLE
071-637 7171

**ASSIGNATIONS**
*Lesley Hudson-Jessop*
(ex Professional Headhunter)
Home knowledge and professional skills lead to tailor made introductions
LONDON AND M4 CORRIDOR
01225 482905

ELIZABETH ANN CONTACTS
Gents, are you lonely? Why not have a beautiful Russian lady as your partner? I am a Russian lady & offer you my personal assistance to find the girl of your dreams. Agency run by caring family 01775 590683

Dateline
*"The U.K.'s largest agency..."*
THE INDEPENDENT
For free details in absolute confidence: Dept N, Dateline, 25 Abingdon Rd, London W8 6AL
01869 324 100

ALL BOX NUMBER REPLIES SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO:
Box No...
c/o THE TIMES NEWSPAPERS LTD
P.O.BOX 3553
VIRGINIA ST
LONDON E1 9BL

### SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS

Club STIRIUS
50% off
As featured in ITV Documentary 'The Truth About Women'
**Free Club Magazine**
Listing nearly 10,000 current members
*anonymity maintained at all times*
8.30am to 10.30pm 7 days a week or write to FREEPOST 305 London EC1B 1SY ABIA Member

**MORE!** LOCAL OFFICES NATIONWIDE.
**MORE!** LOCAL CLIENTS TO MEET.
**MORE!** CLASSIFIED COLUMNS ABOVE FOR YOUR LOCAL ELITE OFFICE
Elite Introductions
10AM - 10PM EVERYDAY.
FREECALL LOCAL OFFICE:
0500-003444

If you are single
Don't take a chance
Make a choice
Avenues
FREEPHONE 0800 122 122

31A St James's Square London SW1
The EXECUTIVE Club
*Since 1985 people of quality have been introduced through our exclusive social events and superb introduction service. We invite membership to complement almost certainly the finest selection of unattached professionals in the UK.*
● Personal introductions ● Social events
0171 499 8833

WHY E.C.? Quite simply, it's because members of the Executive Club of St James's have a near unlimited choice of high quality members. We guarantee you the choice from AT LEAST 25 matched ACTIVE members in three months or REFUND YOUR FEE. (Others may offer to extend your membership period even if you have only had one date in a year). You are a member for life. Try us for six weeks and if YOU don't agree we are the finest service there is, we'll refund your fee towards any other dating service in the world – such is the quality of our service; and a wide choice of high quality social events each month.
E.C. THE BEST THERE IS – OR YOUR FEE REFUNDED
Brighton, Bristol, Exeter, London - Pall Mall, Edgware and throughout the UK.

# EXECUTIVE *Club* PARTIES

**Telephone 01323 490280**

**Dover St Restaurant/Wine Bar** It's the 'in' place in Mayfair for live jazz/blues and dancing. Join us for our dinner party from 9pm until 2am. Champagne reception, 4-course dinner and wines. Memb. £46, guests £56.

**Players Theatre** – Join us for a very special theatre evening indeed. We have taken over the whole theatre for a private performance of the comedy *'Dinosaurs on the Dance Floor'* prior to its tour of the provinces. We start with a champagne reception and following the performance we sit down to a 4-course dinner with unlimited wine. Memb. £37, guests £47.

**Stringfellow's** – Join us for a cocktail party at Stringfellow's. Includes buffet and wines. Memb. £33, guests £38.

**The Blue Elephant** – Transport yourself back to Thailand at this most authentic Thai restaurant. Its reputation is well justified and has to be experienced, the flower and fresh herb bill alone exceeds £1,000 per week. Superb cuisine, attentive service and an ambience unmatched this side of the Pacific. Join us for dinner: Aperitifs, the Thai banquet and wines. Memb. £59, guests £69.

**La Porte Des Indes** – This is the Indian cuisine sister restaurant to The Blue Elephant. Probably one of the world's finest Indian restaurants. With over two million pounds spent on the decor it is an experience not to be missed, a sea of white marble, hand painted murals, hand carved sandstone balustrades, ornate wood carvings, hand embroidered tented ceilings topped by a 400ft Mogul waterfall. The restaurant is filled with exotic plants and flowers. The staff are in traditional costume and the service is superb. Accolades include "Best Indian Restaurant" and "Best U.K. Restaurant". Join us for an aperitif followed by a 4-course meal with wine. Memb. £58, guests £68.

**Royal Garden Hotel** – Join us for a dinner dance at this first class hotel with its restaurant overlooking Kensington Gardens. Memb. £67, guests £71.

**Diva's** – What a classy little club. Always fun, good food, good wine, good music, dancing until 1am. Why don't you join us? Aperitifs, 4-course dinner, unlimited wine. Memb. £54, guests £64.

**Leingham Hilton** – Join us in the splendour of this 'Edwardian' Hotel opposite the BBC in Regent Street, for a dinner/dance. Our evening starts at 8pm with a champagne reception for dinner at 8.30pm. The cost includes a 4-course dinner with sparkling water and unlimited wine to accompany your meal. You may stay until 1am and dance the night away. Memb. £63, guests £73.

These are a selection of our regular social events for unattached professionals. Members have the choice of over 15 events per month. Social membership costs £40 for 3 months, or £125 for 2 years (includes £40 worth of event vouchers).

### GENTLEMEN

**AGE** of Aquarius. Romantic Pisceans W.1M Sensitive lady, 46/56, to share this exciting event. Warm friendship, maybe more. South of London. Written replies & photo please.Bx 9734

**AND** so you appeared...unforgettable, a woman with depth, education, confidence, tenderness & openness to Cleo Wordd, 30-38, Maybe special, a man of the World, highly educated & successful, happily, single, GSOH, & capable of sharing intense love, London based, fond of Italy & France. Superfast cars & skiing. I am passionate about travel & can't wait to see the World all over again...with you. Please tell me about yourself, with enclosed photo. Box No 9624

**ATTRACTIVE** Caring Bank! 40's, seeks female 20s/30s for long fun relationship? South. Please Reply to Box No 9839

**BRIGHTON** 'Elite'. For introductions in Sussex call Nigel on 01273 270975 Anytime

**BRISTOL/Bath** area. For local, professional introductions call Chris at Elite: 0117 973 6663

**CLUB ENCOUNTERS.** London and M4 Corridor. 0800 141 141.

**D.I.S.H.Y.** partner wanted for mid 30's, tall, successful man with GSOH, character. Box 24-32, stunning, successful. London/SE.Photo.ALA.Bx 9838

**CALL** Birmingham 'Elite' now - ladies! Over 500 attractive, local gentlemen. Contact Diana 0121 323 3314 7 days

**DANGEROUSLY** addictive gentleman, 53/1.68, kind, thoughtful, intelligent, GSOH, in fact most things to most people. Enjoys music, conversation & the simple things in life. Seeks outstanding woman who is good at them. W London. Please reply to Box No 9786

**DENTIST** 5'11", 44, W.1M youngish lady for loving relationship. Enjoy cycling over, sleeping bats, worldwide sway. Photo appreciated. Sussex/ London.Box 9719

**DISTINGUISHED,** humorous, handsome, tall, slim, late 40's gentleman, enjoys the arts, cooking, window shopping & all usual pursuits. Seeks elegant, glamorous, passionate, 50s/60s lady for serious relationship.Bx 9789

**DOCTOR** (Addicted) 44, 6'10, n/s, fit, caring, humorous, sensitive, intelligent WLTM lady up to 36 for friendship maybe more. London/Surrey/Sussex. Box appreciated Bx 9783

**EARLY** retired professional gentleman seeks attractive, loving, petite Girl Friday to suit the rest of the world in 28" waist. Must have GSOH, driving experience and the class for extended cruises essential. Photo & salary appreciated plse Bx 9965

**FOR** an exclusive introduction service to exceptional men tel Dovetail 0171 483 3377

**GRADUATE,** 44, slim, 5'11", romantic, seeks soulmate to love & be loved.Please Reply to Box No 9459

**INDIVIDUAL** introductions - to genuine & discerning men in London/Surrey - Dovetail 0171 483 3377 or 01932 783165

**HANDSOME,** slim, 31 year old medical professional, fun loving, intelligent, caring man, seeks similar lady 25-35 for travel, romance and fun. Londoner/ West Midlander. Please write with photo to George Clooney. Reply Box 9767

**INTERNATIONAL** minded MBA student, 35, 5ft. 9"11", blue/green eyes, dark hair, optimistic, fun loving, seeks similar slim lady 25-35 for fun times ahead. Please write with photo to Box No 9749

**LADIES,** why write to one when you can meet hundreds of eligible, attractive men by calling Club Encounters free on 0800 141 141.

**LONDON** 'Elite' the One to One Introduction Agency for businesses and professional people. For a quality personal service Call Elite 0171 637 7171

**INTELLIGENT,** well travelled, very fit, GSOH, (40), concentrating on the career & too much time, decided to find a mate in '98. Likes theatre, cinema, dining, films, children, animals, in fact most things. If you feel you would like to meet a genuine man then please write, photo to receive a reply with a photo to ensure a reply will be returned. Reading/Berks/London area. Please Reply to Box No 9889

**LOVEABLE** rogue, mid 40's, seeks outrageous flirt. Life's too short to waste. Take a risk. Put pen to paper + photo. Box 9777

**MANNISH** look-a-like, 44, healthy mix of macho & physique, gregarious, sensitive & sexy, for fun, adventure & romance. Photo please.Bx 9902

**MALE** professional occupation, well travelled, sophisticated, appreciates the big '20', seeks attractive, well spoken, n/s lady with the class for permanent relationship. Write: Glen, Please Reply to Box No 9697

**MANCHESTER** single professional guy, seeks attractive, loving petite Girl Friday to suit the rest of the world in 28" waist. Must have GSOH, driving experience and the class for extended cruises essential. Photo & salary appreciated plse Bx 9965

**NUTTS/Leics/Lincs/Derbys** 'Elite' Valentines by the score - all seeking attractive, articulate men, all ages - join them you won't be disappointed. Valentine is what it's for. Call Elite now 0115 937 6104 for free info pack

**PROFESSIONAL** gentleman, Cotswolds/Oxon, mid-forties, attractive, sensual, without hang ups, without being conventional/boring, seeks like minded lady, with class, for friendship, giving love, and receiving it in return. I'm 6', fit, solvent, n/s, to be London based, to start - suit, tall, attractive lady 25-35 who enjoys sports and the country, occasionally. Reply Box 9883

**SINGLE** guy, 30, 5'11", 12st, brown hair, blue eyes, WLTM lady, 25-30, who likes travel, theatre, cinema, eating out, walking, Wales, Winter skiing, Summer sailing. Write to me, Box 9760

**STUD,** SPAIN based, 40, retired, slim, athletic, active, sensual, great sense of humour, seeks attractive, slim, sensual, fun loving lady of similar interests with a view to a long term relationship. Please write to Box No 9667

**SUCCESSFUL** M.D. single, 41, good looking, tall, warm, sensual, loving, unwilling, sensitive, great lifestyle, seeks attractive, slim, stylish lady, 20's/30's to share life's little adventures in London & abroad. Photo please. Box 9667

**SUCCESSFUL** single male, 6'1", 40's, slim, fit, handsome, seeks attractive, intelligent and classy, Lilies loving woman, for friendship, dining & relationship. Please write and n/s WLTM lady 30-40 for romance and more. Box 9644

**THOUGHTFUL,** emotionally articulate, divorced Cambridge grad, 50, desk, 5'11", chamber build, country pursuits, literary & antiquarian interests, occasional day wife, seeks beautiful tender slim counterpart lady, 30s to enjoy love, laughter, life. Box No 9689

**TAKE A Break.** Read about me in Take A Break magazine. Issue 7, 17th Feb. I am looking for a lifetime relationship with a stylish, slim, attractive, well educated lady 40-55. I love the city lights but so one special with whom to spend forever with. Hampshire based would be an advantage. Photo with reply would be appreciated. Box no9561

**VALENTINE'S DAY** is every day at Club Encounters! Call today on 0800 141 141.

**VIBRE** good looking male, 41, successful, confident, pregnant yet kind and caring W.1M fun female who enjoys dining out, theatre, Londons/Home Counties Box 9887

**Zzzzz,** wake up! Club Encounters is open every day. Call us now free on 0800 141141.

**GAY** men London/Home Counties seeking long term relationships - ring Significant Others - the gay intro bureau for professionals. 0171 499 8939

**SWF,** PIPPER look-a-like. Some vineyard 6'3", light hearted, low maintenance, likes theatre, Bosom Strawberry Fields For-ever lady. Don't miss the boat. S.W. London/ Dorset/ or somewhere. Box No 9711

**SENSITIVE** Upper Class girl 20s/30s, n/s, who would like to share quality relationship with eligible, tall, Oxbridge gentleman. Wife sadly died aged 34 daughter 15. Old enough to be your mother 15. Old enough to be your mother but young at heart. Lived father in bath of an, Listed house, Essex village. Discreet but important. Local town also important. Everybody will know anyway. Everybody knows how we are! Box No 9486

**2** single, attractive business executives, 36 & 43, well educated, good fun, outgoing & successful, enjoy the finer things in life, are very generous & romantic, outgoing & likeminded women for friendship first, whatever develops. Write to London & S. E. Box, or write - we would be our great pals! Box No 9883

**STYLISH,** Intelligent & sensitive? I'm 42, handsome & outgoing, love country walks, plays, theatre, eating out, WLTM lady, 32-39 & slender, good taste, humour & honesty. Photo please. Box 9886

**SOUTH AMERICAN** banker, 6'2", 40's, very well established & fit, good looking volunteer & successful, speaks fluent the year in Rural between Gloucestershire & London. Seeks tall, slim & distinguished looking blond or red head, under 35, Photo & tel. please. Box No 9440

**SUCCESSFUL** M.D. single, 41, good looking, tall, warm, sensual, loving, unwilling, sensitive, great lifestyle, seeks attractive, slim, stylish lady, 20's/30's to share life's little adventures in London & abroad. Photo please. Box 9667

**SUCCESSFUL** single male, 6'1", 40's, slim, fit, handsome, seeks attractive, intelligent and classy, Lilies loving woman, for friendship, dining & relationship. Please write and n/s WLTM lady 30-40 for romance and more. Box 9644

**THOUGHTFUL,** emotionally articulate, divorced Cambridge grad, 50, desk, 5'11", chamber build, country pursuits, literary & antiquarian interests, occasional day wife, seeks beautiful tender slim counterpart lady, 30s to enjoy love, laughter, life. Box No 9689

**THEY** VW Beetle receiver female accompany for the man that owns you on motorway. Ring you year. He is 6'2", University grad, Ltd. company director, classic cars, well travelled, fit & sometimes a little crazy - he hates to read. Who says someone to share? Please Reply to Box No 9439

### SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS

Elite
LONDON
THE NO.1 INTRODUCTION SERVICE FOR BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL PEOPLE
071-637 7171

**ASSIGNATIONS**
*Lesley Hudson-Jessop*
(ex Professional Headhunter)
Home knowledge and professional skills lead to tailor made introductions
LONDON AND M4 CORRIDOR
01225 482905

ELIZABETH ANN CONTACTS
Gents, are you lonely? Why not have a beautiful Russian lady as your partner? I am a Russian lady & offer you my personal assistance to find the girl of your dreams. Agency run by caring family 01775 590683

Dateline
*"The U.K.'s largest agency..."*
THE INDEPENDENT
For free details in absolute confidence: Dept N, Dateline, 25 Abingdon Rd, London W8 6AL
01869 324 100

ALL BOX NUMBER REPLIES SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO:
Box No...
c/o THE TIMES NEWSPAPERS LTD
P.O.BOX 3553
VIRGINIA ST
LONDON E1 9BL



Valentine's
14 feb
pick up the phone
dial 0171 481 4000
place your own personal ad
Look forward to meeting
that special someone
this Valentine's Day
Placing an advert could not be easier

# RENDEZVOUS

## TO PLACE AN AD...

**BY PHONE**
**0171 481 4000**

**BY POST, FAX OR EMAIL**
Post: please attach your wording to the coupon adjacent. Advertise for only £8.23 per line and a single box charge of £11.75, (box number is open-28 days)

All advertisers will now receive postal replies *and* voice mail response facility at no extra charge.

## TO RESPOND TO AN AD...

**BY VOICE MAIL**
When responding to an advertiser call 0897 505 563 (*calls cost £1.00 per minute at all times*) and then follow the simple voice instructions.

**BY POST**
All postal replies should be addressed to Box No..... c/o The Times, P.O. Box 3553, Virginia Street, London E1 9GA.

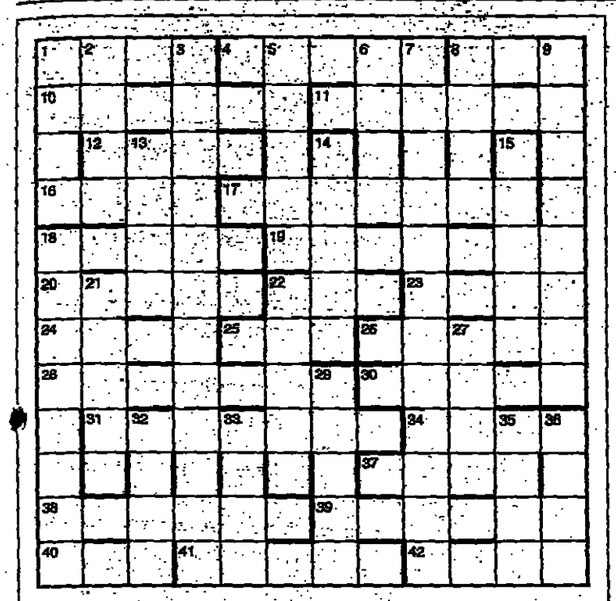
Fax: 0171 481 9313 or E-mail, Lisa.Ball@newsint.co.uk

THE TIMES



## THE LISTENER CROSSWORD

# No 3448: Op 20 by Pabulum



OF 12 special clues, five are definitions and secondary indicators of the answers as treated for entry, the treatment resembling a drastic form of an everyday operation; the others contain no definitions, and in each case the performance of the operation on the answer to the clue could (as Brewer confirms) portend the answer to be entered. Remaining clues need paring by one letter before being solved; pared letters in clue order define the subject of the operation. Operating equipment is in the completed grid. Length indicators indicate lengths in the grid. Answers include three proper names.

**ACROSS**

1 Three arrest one (4)
4 Part of pantos bandsmen ended with a twist (5)
8 Sound of cobra unable to poison? (3)
10 Rebuke aristo trapping fur (6)
11 Sandy arena has wrestling afternoon with Argentina (6)
12 Riley always very loud on the motorway (4)
16 Greek poof heads back to receive bachelor (4)
17 Vandal lopped yards off (7)
18 What's "burning bright?" Look over what growls in forests (5)
19 Lord quells raid lasting 72 hours (7)
20 Twine of some odd length (5)
22 Outlandish ships lay at anchor once (3)
23 Rum I gave for nerves (4)
24 Because of dogging overdraft, the slate I welcomed (4)
25 Troops advanced roughly 600 yards (3)
26 Boarders appear back around beginning of term (5)
28 Contrite parties in government (7)
30 Book store sent over *The Waste Land* and *Othello* (5)
31 Embarrassing score Walton edited to harmonize internally (7, two words)
34 Delhi possibly constant in very good parking (4)
37 Superdominant yellow dog (4)
38 Planet awful desolate without day or oxygen (6)
39 Almost lifeless after doge gives poison (6)
40 Retired Doctor of Surgery present no longer, alas (3)
41 Observe docked pony sweat in India (5)
42 Prods a very long time with no rector (4)

**DOWN**

1 Some kerosine or opera for musical arsonist? (4)
2 Fib about amateur piece of verse (4)
3 Singular duets are unknown (12)
5 Lively flea jumping right on Towser's head (5)
6 Starts to isolate animals, neutralizing galloping anthrax (4)
7 Unsteady centre deserts in action (12,two words)
8 Hans with beard cut (4)
9 OT books contain fallen giants idolizing Beelzebub (8)
13 One into internal security electrified items (4)
14 Camorrist cast away Berber's spear (5)
15 Classy sarge's drill (5)
18 Indian bean in Malaysian dish (8)
21 Where strumpets are common love's done crudely (5)
22 *Poco agitato* with LPO (*ma non piano*) makes the Rhenish's opening sound (5)
27 Strop for setter extremely hard to penetrate (4)
29 Agent from North America troubles cocaine ring (5)
32 Poet's redwood polled in blossom (4)
33 Ogle with base merriment (4)
35 Mace's left over as two pinches of oregano almost worked (4)
36 We could be summoned to condemn sin in action (4)

**LISTENER CROSSWORD No 3448**
**in association with Waterstone's**

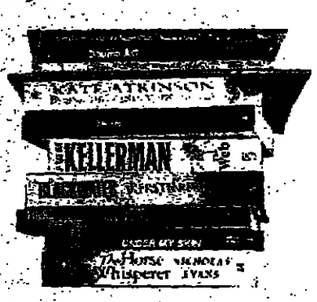
NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

Cut out and send the completed crossword and coupon above to The Listener Crossword No 3448, 63 Green Lane, St Albans, Hertfordshire AL3 6HE, by Wednesday, February 18.

W
WATERSTONE'S

The winner will receive a Waterstone's book token worth £75. Five runners-up will each receive a book token worth £10




Waterstone's first opened a bookshop in 1982, and now has a branch in virtually every major town and city in the UK and Ireland. Each of its 100-odd branches has at least 50,000 titles in stock and can order any book currently in print in the UK. Out-of-Print Booksearch, 01892 522700. Mailing Service and Signed First Editions, 01225 448596. For your nearest branch of Waterstone's, call 01225 448595.

**Solution and notes for 3445**
**Rogue Characters by *Duck***

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 T | O | 2 D | O | 3 C | R | O | 4 C | O | I | 5 T | E | |
| 6 R | O | E | D | E | E | R | O | 7 R | E | E | 8 D | |
| 9 O | P | E | D | R | 10 E | R | R | A | 11 B | L | E | |
| 12 O | 13 U | R | I | E | L | 14 N | O | T | I | O | N | |
| P | R | E | T | 15 C | I | O | N | E | T | S | I | |
| 16 T | A | K | Y | A | N | 17 S | A | P | E | 18 L | E | |
| 19 H | O | 20 M | I | N | G | M | C | 21 M | E | E | R | |
| E | 22 A | A | 23 D | O | P | A | H | A | 24 C | D | 25 A | |
| 26 I | N | W | I | N | D | L | 27 Y | D | R | A | D | |
| 28 S | T | R | A | I | N | T | I | 29 R | I | V | O | |
| 30 T | A | R | N | S | 31 R | O | T | A | T | O | R | |
| 32 H | E | P | A | T | I | S | E | 33 S | O | N | E | |

Clue types, rogue letters and "unrogued" words are as follows: Across 4 2, I, ore 9 2N, buck 10 I, T, saying 12 2, H, Began 13 3, Y, bijou 15 2, O, dingy 17 I, R, ay 18 2, I, son 19 I, S, cold 20 3O, pirate 22 I, N, me 24 2, S, pure 30 I, B, gale 32 3, E, *ramin*ieness 33 3, A, v(a)rious 34 2, L, water35 I, L, back. Down 2 3, M, e(m)ergency 3 I, Y, card 4 2, S, way 5 3, I, l(i)ngerie 6 2, N, dirge 8 I, S, end 14 3, R, unibesmen 16 3, E, (E)uropean 18 3, M, I'm 20 3, E, comic) 21 I, M, ale 23 2, B, lass 24 2, E, scarf 25 3, R, a(rie 28 I, E, pal (ref. Socrates) 31 I, D, one

Quotation (from *Hamlet*): "Nymph, in thy orisons be all my *sins* remembered." *Remembered nymphs are at*: Across 1 Doto 27 Phao 31 Dryad 36 Pasithee 37 Neso. Down 1 Proto 7 Erato 11 Nereid 19 Thetis 26 Naiad 29 Oread

The winner is J.A.C Martin, of London.
The runners up are P.L. Stone, of Knaresborough, North Yorkshire; Peter Mabey, of Harlow, Essex; Brenda J. Widger, of Altrincham, Cheshire; Mike Adams of Winchester, Hants; Robb Prinn of Pangbourne, Berkshire

## BRIDGE

# by Robert Sheehan

QUESTION 3 of the Christmas quiz concerned playing this suit combination for four tricks:

AJ654
Q92

1) Which is the best play?
2) What is the second-best play, and where does it lose to the best play?
(5 points for each of a and b). There are no entry problems.

As I've said before, you shouldn't try to learn these positions by rote: you should practice the reasoning required to work them out at the table. If the suit splits 3-2, any sane play will result in four tricks, and if the suit is 5-0 you have no chance. So the only relevant holdings are the 4-1 breaks.

The choice is whether to start by playing the ace, or by leading the queen. If you play ace and another you will make against all 4-1 breaks in which the king or ten is singleton, and that would be the correct play if North's cards were AJ543. The presence of the six changes matters.

If you lead the queen, you lose to one of the above holdings — when East has the singleton king. You still survive when West has the singleton king — taking the ace and leading back towards the nine restricts East's holding of 10873 to one trick.

But leading the queen gains against two 4-1 breaks: those where East has the singleton seven or eight. If West covers from say K1083 you win the ace and lead back towards the nine, thus establishing a marked finesse position, with J6 in dummy over West's 83. This one of the two critical lay-outs where the queen gains:

AJ654
K1083 7
Q92

So playing the queen is best — it makes four tricks against five of the ten possible 4-1 breaks (the ten being either East or West having each of the five possible singletons). Ace and another succeeds against four of the ten.

As each of the ten distributions has a probability of 2.8 per cent, you might well say that getting it wrong is a minor error, and so indeed it is in terms of expectation — the 3-2 break is 68 per cent, so the difference is between bringing in the suit 79.2 per cent and 82 per cent of the time. But notice that in terms of what you can influence it is more significant — the difference between succeeding against 40 per cent or 50 per cent of the 4-1 breaks.

That is quite a common theme in bridge, or other games for that matter. In many situations the baseline is that whatever you do you will be quite successful. Sailing is a good example: any reasonable sail setting will give 90 per cent of the boat's potential speed: the hard work is all about achieving the last 10 per cent. So it is in bridge — often any sensible play play will achieve most of the potential of a hand. The skill is in squeezing out the last few drops of advantage.

## WORD ANSWERS

**Answers from page 40**

ALTERNE
(e) A contrast, often sharply defined, shown by vegetation in adjoining areas. *An area exhibiting such contrast. From the French alterne* alternate. "Where conditions change abruptly instead of gradually and zonation is disturbed or incomplete, vegetation exhibits alternes."

FELLAGHA
(a) A guerrilla soldier of a nationalist movement in Algeria and Tunisia when the two countries were under French control. An adaptation of the colloquial Arabic for a bandit or robber. "*The governments* appealed to the fellaghas, promising an amnesty."

GOGGA
(a) An insect of any type. From the Hottentot. "This country ought to be called Guggaland."

AKE
(b) The Maori name for the small New Zealand hardwood tree *Dodonaea viscosa* and trees of the genus *Olearia*.

## TWO BRAINS

**Answers from page 40**

**Question 1:**
DAH. Replace each letter with its alphabetical position.

**Question 2:**
V. All the letters have an 'EE' sound when spoken.

*For information on Mensa, call 01902 772771 or write to Mensa, Freepost, Wolverhampton WV2 1BR.*

## CHESS

# by Raymond Keene

SOME books in the history of chess literature achieve classic status by adumbrating new ways of thinking about chess situations. Rather than being mere assemblages of chess moves, collected together very much like the information in a telephone directory, such works purport to shed light on the ways in which we think when playing chess.

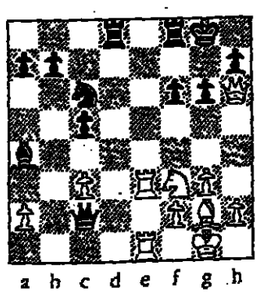
Among the classics of this nature I would include the Bible of chess strategy, Aron Nimzowitsh's *My System*, and the seminal work produced by Alexander Kotov, the Russian grandmaster, called *Think Like a Grandmaster*, which sought to explain the thinking and training methods of the remarkably successful Soviet chess school.

A new book which aspires to join this category of advanced explanatory manuals is *Analyse to Win — Visualising Victory* by Byron Jacobs (Batsford, £14.99). The key premise to the book is to develop the readers' intuition for spotting the decisive tactical moment in the chess struggle.

Even the greatest of players have sometimes overlooked crushing continuations in complex positions and some of the missed opportunities catalogued border on the miraculous.

Take the following position, for example.

**White: Mikhail Botvinnik; Black: Vassily Smyslov**
**World Championship, Moscow 1958**



Here White is a pawn down with shattered pawns on the queenside. Temporarily Botvinnik has a preponderance of force massed in the vicinity of the black king. The question is, can White strike home? In the game Botvinnik played 23 Bh3? but the reply 23 . . . Ne5 put an end to his play by identifying White's own weakness on f2. Ultimately, Botvinnik still won but only as a result of some very weak play from Smyslov.

Instead, from the diagram, White could have won legitimately with the remarkable

**23 Nd4!**

after which the white forces achieve a decisive co-ordination. For example:

**23 . . . cxd4 24 Bd5+!**

A further dramatic sacrifice.

**24 . . . Rxd5**

If 24 . . . Kh8 25 Re7 Nxe7 26 Rxe7 and Black is helpless.

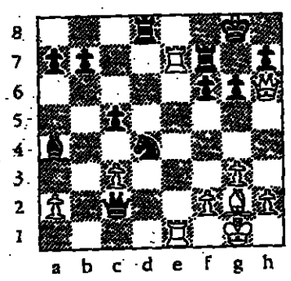
**25 Re8!**

After this White has a winning attack. The alternative is

**23 . . . Nxd4 24 Re7!**

Botvinnik originally gave 24 Bd5+? Rxd5 25 Re7 which he dismissed as winning, but Dvoretsky points out the refutation 25 . . . Ne2+! 26 Kf1 Rf7 27 Rxf7 Kxf7 28 Qxh7+ Kf8 and Black escapes.

**24 . . . Rf7**



Now the most accurate (and spectacular) is

**25 Bd5! Nf3+ 26 Kh1**

and Black has no defence, the main problem being

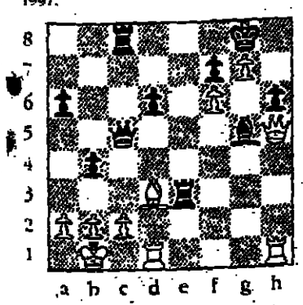
**26 . . . Qxd2 27 Bxf7+ Kh8**
**28 Re8+! Rxe8 29 Rxe8+ Bxe8**
**30 Qf8 checkmate**

These sensational variations, true gems of chessboard imagination, all stem from the amazing missed opportunity 23 Nd4.

## WINNING MOVE

*by Raymond Keene*

White to play. This position is from the game Prie — Wauters, Corsica 1997.



White's pawns on f6 and g7 are a bone in Black's throat. How did White use this structure to deliver a quick checkmate?

The first correct answer drawn on Thursday will win a year's subscription to the Staunton Society. Answers on a postcard please, addressed to Winning Move competition, *The Times*, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN.

The answer will be published next Saturday.

Solution to last week's competition:

1...Rf8+

The winner is Mr D.A. McBean, of Bognor Regis, West Sussex

## COMPUTER GAMES AND PASTIMES

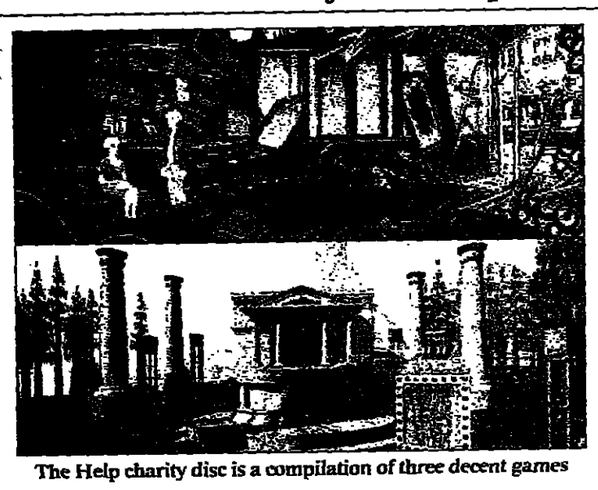
# by Tim Wapshott

GAMES can be good for you and some games can also be good for someone else with the Help charity disc released for the Sony PlayStation. This three-in-one compilation is set to raise funds for the Prince's Trust.

The Help disc, a co-production of Sony and Acclaim, includes a trio of decent titles: **Myst**, **Broken Sword** and **Road Rash**. Myst has long been hailed as a classic, with its rich blend of suspense and strategy. Broken Sword is a thoroughly engrossing animated adventure and Road Rash, perhaps the weakest link in the chain, is a regular racing game.

Although the disc does not come cheap at £39.99, it is a bargain if you are after any two of these titles independently. Sony has not revealed how much from each sale will go to the fund but it hopes to raise £1 million for the Trust from the charity compilation. Last year, Sony was behind another fund-raiser for the Prince's Trust, the PlayStation Power Source disc packed with playable demos. It has notched up over 30,000 sales.

The Prince's Trust was set up by the Prince of Wales in 1976 (he is still president) to help young people do something positive for themselves or their community. You can learn more about the charity's work and even how to apply for help at the trust's website (*http://www.prince-trust.org.uk/e3-index.htm*). This is a breezy and neatly-designed operation. Every aspect of the charity is covered, from training schemes and business loans to news of the Rock School weeks. The website also explains how you can support the Trust.



The Help charity disc is a compilation of three decent games

CYBERSPACE Forty, offering over £2,000 worth of Intel Create & Share Camera Packs, generated an avalanche of interest. We asked who you would share a pair of PC cameras with and how the gizmos would improve your life. Many of you came up with off-beat ideas, including Mr D. Gleed of Burnhill Green, Shropshire, who said: "Being on camera would improve my life by forcing me to trim my nasal hair."

Our first winner is Mrs Elisabeth Nicholson of Milton Keynes, who will be keeping neither camera for herself. She wrote: "I would give one to my 76-year-old father and the second to my brother and his family in Singapore. Dad's increasing deafness makes it almost impossible for him to use the telephone. At Christmas he acquired a computer, complete with microphone and loud speakers. I admire the enthusiastic way he has applied himself to harnessing the unfamiliar technology, driven by the incentive to keep in contact with his grandchildren."

Next up are the Dear family from Southampton — Mr and Mrs Keith Dear and their daughter Jennifer. Mr Dear said: "Jennifer is a boarder at the Chetham School of Music 220 miles away in Manchester. The Intel packs would not only enhance our regular telephone calls to her but would also enable us to tap in live to regular lunchtime concerts and be there when she performs." Revealing the more likely reason the Dear parents are keen to win, Mr Dear added casually: "We could also see if Jennifer gets her ears pierced."

Mrs Dorothy Pratt from Thornhill, Sunderland, retired from nursing last year and she is our third winner. As soon as she found herself with time on her hands she bought a PC and embarked on a computer course. "This opened up a whole new world for me and I have since completed several further courses," she wrote. "Initially, I did not even know how to switch on a computer but now I thirst for more knowledge and new technology. My daughter is in San Francisco and I haven't seen her for two years. The second camera would go to her, to help alleviate her bouts of homesickness and let me get to see her once in a while."

Congratulations. Next week we look at the other winning entries.

## NEW SOFTWARE

IN AMERICA, ice hockey matches are more like rock concerts than conventional sports gigs, since pounding music and jingles drive the events along. The players are built like concrete tower blocks and are clearly mean. It would be certain death, for example, to goad one with "ice-skates are for sissies".

In lay terms, an ice hockey game is played in thirds and generally there are two styles of action. In the first style, each team tries to score goals by dribbling or whacking the tiny puck into the nets.

Gameplay comes in short but exhilarating bursts but it is still clearly exhausting for the participants, which is why this is a constantly rolling relay event with substitutes ready and waiting on the sidelines.

The second style of action is the one the crowd has really turned out for. During a burst of gameplay, one tower block decides it would like to demolish an opposing tower block and a mean fight breaks out. When this happens, the other players keep their distance while the entire crowd stands up to get a better look.

NHL 98 for the PC, from EA Sports, is the smartest introduction to American ice-hockey around. With practice, you can score goals and then get to demolish a tower block or two.

■ **7 out of 10. Try your luck with the puck. £34.99.**



NHL '98: kicking action

COMMENTATOR Barry Davies made Actua Soccer blissful but it is his sidekick, "Mr" Trevor Brooking, who makes Actua Soccer 2 even better. Brooking delivers his rambling comments with such conviction he could make *Private Eye*'s Bore column. Take a test match between Germany and England. Before the kick-off, Brooking sets the scene: "The great thing about today is, of course, both sides have got a very attacking style of player. They like to throw men forward, they'll probably feel their strength is going forward rather than defending and I think that's what we're going to see both teams doing."

England scores the first goal, replayed from multiple camera angles. "Wonderful control," observes Davies, but Brooking has more to say: "Well, he made it look so simple but that was just because of his outstanding control. I mean, it was a difficult height. Immediately he got it down onto the floor and really tucked it into the corner before the opportunity for a defender to get a challenge in."

It is the gritty quality of the commentary, seemingly tailored to your play whatever you do, which gives this masterful football game its weight.

Even poor players who can't kick for toffee will find themselves swept along by the Davies and Brooking double act.

■ **8 out of 10. Solid and very stylish football sim. £39.99.**

## CROSS WORDS

**Answers from page 40**

*afternoon; the first and last paragraphs do not contain a single "e".*

## SOLUTION TO JUMBO CROSSWORD 148

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 A | L | 2 L | S | 3 W | E | 4 L | L | 5 T | H | 6 A | T | 7 E | N | 8 D |
| B | | A | | E | | O | | E | | N | | L | | E |
| 9 L | A | U | N | D | E | R | E | T | T | E | | 17 G | E | N |
| E | | N | | G | | E | | R | | U | | R | | S |
| 18 B | E | C | K | E | T | T | | 20 A | G | R | E | E | M | E |
| O | | H | | | | T | | H | | Y | | C | | |
| 23 D | U | P | L | 23 I | C | A | T | E | | 24 S | P | O | N | 26 G |
| I | | A | | N | | | | D | | M | | | | A |
| 27 E | N | D | O | F | S | 28 T | O | R | Y | | | 28 P | 30 E | T |
| D | | | | O | | E | | A | | 36 B | | M | | L |
| 36 S | O | 37 B | E | R | I | N | G | | | 39 T | R | A | I | N |
| E | | A | | M | | S | | 40 T | | O | | N | | C |
| 42 A | F | G | H | A | N | I | | 43 E | N | A | M | E | L | S |
| M | | P | | T | | O | | N | | D | | N | | A |
| 48 A | F | I | C | I | O | N | A | D | O | S | | 48 C | A | U |
| N | | P | | O | | L | | E | | I | | E | | S |
| | 49 R | E | I | N | D | E | E | R | | 49 D | O | G | E | A |
| 61 S | | R | | T | | S | | L | | E | | R | | G |
| 63 C | A | S | T | E | | 64 S | H | O | P | S | O | I | L | E |
| R | | | | C | | | | V | | | | S | | |
| 68 A | L | 65 C | O | H | O | 60 L | | 61 I | L | 62 L | H | E | A | 83 L |
| T | | O | | N | | O | | N | | A | | | | E |
| 66 C | O | N | D | O | N | I | N | G | | 67 P | A | 68 R | I | P |
| H | | C | | L | | T | | C | | P | | E | | T |
| 71 P | H | E | N | O | M | E | N | A | | 72 I | D | A | H | O |
| A | | A | | G | | R | | R | | S | | C | | N |
| 74 D | E | L | A | Y | S | | 75 H | E | W | H | O | H | E | S |

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 9 | 10 L | L | | 11 S | 12 T | A | 13 L | L | 14 S | | | | | |
| | 15 T | | H | | I | | T | | | | | | | |
| | 17 G | E | N | U | S | | 18 A | I | R | L | E | T | T | E | R |
| | R | | S | | H | | D | | O | | W | | O | | A |
| | 20 A | G | R | E | E | M | E | N | T | | 21 I | R | I | S | H | S | T | E | W |
| | C | | | | U | | N | | K | | I | | E | | B |
| | 23 I | C | A | T | E | | 24 S | P | O | N | 26 G | E | B | A | G | | 26 A | R | T | I | S | T | E |
| | A | | N | | | | Q | | | | A | | | | E | | | | R |
| | 30 E | T | R | O | 31 L | P | U | M | 35 P | | | 32 C | A | 34 T | E | R | | | |
| | E | | E | | L | | A | | Y | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 38 S | E | T | P | I | E | C | E | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | T | | I | | F | | K | | 41 S | | | | | | | | | | |
| | N | | T | O | F | V | I | E | W | | | | | | | | | | |
| | S | | S | | N | | I | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | L | | S | | O | | F | | S | | S | | | | | | | | |
| | E | | R | | O | | | | H | | | | | | | | | | |
| | S | | 62 E | | R | | O | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | C | | R | | | | E | | I | | E | | | | | | | | |
| | 84 T | U | 86 T | O | R | A | G | E | S | | | | | | | | | | |
| | T | | I | | | | O | | E | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 89 S | N | 70 A | R | L | U | P | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | S | | B | | E | | L | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 73 N | E | P | L | U | S | U | L | T | R | A | | | | | | | | |
| | E | | E | | T | | T | | N | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 75 I | S | L | O | S | T | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

The winner of an Alfred Dunhill AD3000, worth £125, is Dr N.E. Emerton, of Cambridge

## MODERN MANNERS

# by John Morgan

*Send your queries to Morgan's Modern Manners, The Times, Weekend, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN*

**Q** **Recently we gave a dinner party at home for which I had gone to a great deal of trouble. Some of our guests asked to bring their small children, since their baby-sitter had let them down, and I was happy to say yes: having children of our own, we are quite used to this. However, instead of sending them to bed, the parents allowed their children to wander around our house and kept getting up in the middle of dinner (not just between courses) to soothe, feed and play with their fractious baby. For us, having a dinner party is a time to relax, enjoy the company of our friends and have some grown-up conversation. Is it now to become an extension of children's tea-time?** — A.R., London SW3.

**A** Let's hope not. Many people share your irritation and frustration with this modern-day scourge of civilised social life, in which previously sensible and sensitive people become so besotted with their offspring that they completely lose any sense of consideration for others. Good manners do not require hosts to tolerate such selfishness, and they should feel perfectly justified in laying down their parameters of acceptable behaviour in their houses. And, to prove that you are not a babyphobe, from time to time give a family lunch to which parents and babies are welcome, and brace yourself for bedlam.



**Q** **Whilst in halls at university, a letter was addressed to my room but to a person I didn't know. I opened it and sent a reply back to the sender, stating that no such person was at the address. As a result the sender and I, briefly, became pen-pals and the addressee became a good friend of mine. Some people, however, insist I should never have opened the letter and that throwing it away would have been a better option. What do you think?** — Mr L. Potton, Banbury, Oxon.

**A** The best manners invariably combine politeness with pragmatism. Therefore, although one should never open somebody else's post (unless asked to do so), in your case it was a sensible and indeed a courteous solution which led to a happy outcome all round.

**Q** **A friend has informed me that due to tight finances, she and her boyfriend are having a small family wedding: i.e. I shall not be invited. My dilemma is whether or not I should give the happy couple a present. I shall be seeing the newly weds on their way to their honeymoon: she has asked if they can stay overnight before catching their flight.** — Name and address withheld.

**A** As you are not attending the wedding, you are under no obligation to give a present. However, as you seem close to the couple, and by the sound of their finances they would welcome contributions to their nuptial nest, I think that it would be a lovely gesture to give them something.

**Q** **How should I deal with people who persist in telephoning late at night? I was brought up to believe that it is not socially acceptable to use the phone after 9pm. My wife complains that I am discourteous to callers at this late hour.** — Jonathan Singer, London NW7.

**A** Nowadays, nine o'clock is the watershed for certain types of television rather than telecommunications, with at least an hour later now being the cut-off time for polite ringing. However, should you wish to deter night birds, you could give them a taste of their own medicine. Find an excuse to ring them at a late hour. Alternatively, employ the highly officious BT Call-Minder system and programme it to intercept calls after an appointed hour and thus avoid the possibility of being discourteous.

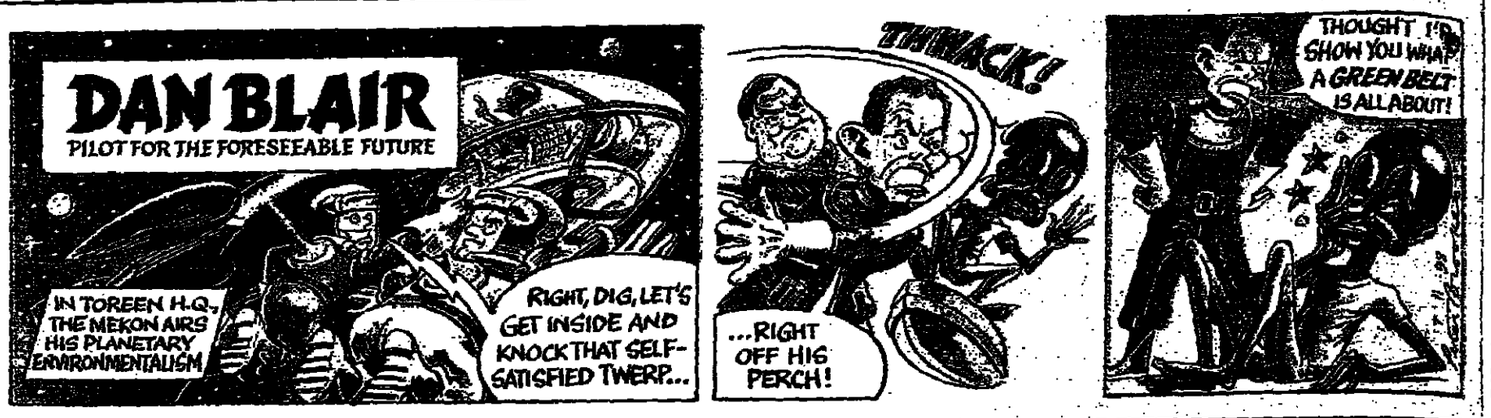
**Q** **I had always understood that one dined in the evening, but more and more that meal is now referred to as supper. Could you please explain the difference?** — D R Raishbrook, Shirley, Croydon.

**A** Semantics have long sent coded messages about social expectations. Supper suggests a more casual evening party than a traditional formal dinner. It promises simpler food (fish pie as opposed to fish *quenelles*), fewer courses (perhaps two rather than four), a modest table setting (fewer serried rows of silver and glasses) and a relaxed location (maybe the kitchen and not the dining room).

**Q** **Having written most of my thank-you letters after Christmas, I am at a loss as how to respond to my sister-in-law's gift. When I received it via my mother-in-law, the wrapping had already been opened and scrumpled shut again. When I opened the gift (a tin of chocolate money) some of the contents had been eaten (wrappers left behind). How do I respond?** — Judy Purves, Louth.

**A** I cannot imagine that your sister-in-law would wish you to receive such a present, and therefore feel that she would want to know that it arrived in such a state. I suggest you write a conventional thank you letter but mention the problem and thus leave it to her to pursue any investigations.

*The author is Associate Editor of GQ*




## WORD WATCHING

*by Philip Howard*

ALTERNE
a. A hang-glider
b. A locum
c. Contrasting veg

FELLAGHA
a. A guerrilla
b. A Nile sailing-boat
c. Ribbon pasta

GOGGA
a. An insect
b. A celebrity-worshipper
c. A delta marsh region

AKE
a. Also Known Erstwhile
b. A small tree
c. An Egyptian god

Answers on page 39

## TWO BRAINS

*by Raymond Keene*

DID you know that in America it is the "Decade of the Brain"?
"Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives ... in Congress Assembled, that the decade beginning 1990 hereby is designated the 'Decade of the Brain', and the President ... is authorised and requested to issue a proclamation calling upon all public officials and the people ... to observe such decade with appropriate programs and activities." July 25, 1989

***Question 1:***
If FDB + CEG = III, what is missing from the following sum?
EHA + ??? = III

**Question 2:**
Which other letter of the alphabet will belong with the following group?
B, C, D, E, G, P, T

Answers on page 39

## CROSS WORDS

# by Brian Greer

Contributors vary our crosswords occasionally by voluntarily imposing additional constraints. I call to mind a particularly skilful individual who constructs pangrammatic diagrams, that is to say diagrams in which A, B, C, D ... Z all occur. If showing off, this brainy chap concocts dipangrammatic grids — and can surpass that doing a Jumbo.

Others like to leave messages well camouflaged within the diagram. For example, some of you may have rightly suspected, in solving one Saturday puzzle last June, that its author was being married that very day. Another of the team very frequently conceals his pseudonym in a linear pattern. Replies to correspondents can be sent in this way, too. When a certain member of the House of Lords informed me that his strategy was to begin by solving in the bottom right-hand corner (on the supposition that the setter by that stage is running out of steam, and the clues will be less tricky), I replied with a puzzle in which the two four-letter words tucked into that corner combined to form his name. I hope he noticed! The four grids having the property that the squares along one of the main diagonals are white provide scope for inserting extra messages of 15 letters (as on my last birthday). All of this, I hasten to add, goes on without affecting the viability of the crosswords all in any way.

Occasionally, by accident or design, a clue is topical, such as one that appeared not long after the last General Election: **For No. Ten a new PM (9).** On other occasions, such as Christmas Eve, the whole crossword is overtly topical and/or thematic. The recent Lewis Carroll puzzle has led to a request for more such efforts. I'd be interested to hear your views.

Can you spot anything unusual about today's first and last paragraphs? I will discuss this in a forthcoming column.

● *The writer is Crossword Editor of The Times*

Answers on page 39

## PICTURE LINE




READERS are invited to suggest what Microsoft chairman Bill Gates might be saying, after a "custard pie" saboteur struck in Brussels.

This picture will appear again next week with an entry chosen from those submitted.

Send "speech bubble" suggestions on a postcard with your name and address to PictureLine, Weekend, *The Times*, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN. The closing date for entries is Wednesday, February 11.

Last week's winning caption, left, was submitted by Mr S. Wainwright, of Carmarthen, Wales.



EPA

## WAR OF THE WORDS

### INSIDE WORD-WATCHING BY PHILIP HOWARD

THE **Word Watching** column is difficult and its words are not invariably useful for everyday discourse. It is written to be so. The prudent assumption when hacking for *The Times* is that many readers know more about the subject under discussion than the writer, and that all of them have a copious vocabulary.

This may not always be true. *The Times* is a vast hamper with parcels for all tastes and conditions of reader. But to run a self-improving It-pays-to-increase-your-word-power column would be to patronise. Some correspondents start the day with **Word Watching**, and feel that it augurs well when they get all four puzzles right. If there is a mistake of a jot or nuance, they telephone this office in a frenzy to point it out — more than anywhere else in the paper, because these readers are, by definition, logophiles and purists.

I may have defined the term Fool's Mate erroneously the other day. Several hundred people, including Raymond Keene, the *Times* chess correspondent, over and over again to anyone who would listen, rang in to point it out. Too late, old bean. If you rule out all schoolboy puns, echoes and homophonic jokes, you are usually left with the right answer.

Those small linguistic boxes of **Word Watching** are an oddity. They go in every day, except Sundays. So the stock is running out as continually as those baths in school maths problems. And they float around in the second half of the paper, appearing now on Sports, now in Business, but always in Weekend on a Saturday.

Sub-editors in Sport and Business cannot be expected to be as keen on linguistics as they are on footie or takeovers. So the game is a daily hazard and hostage to readers.

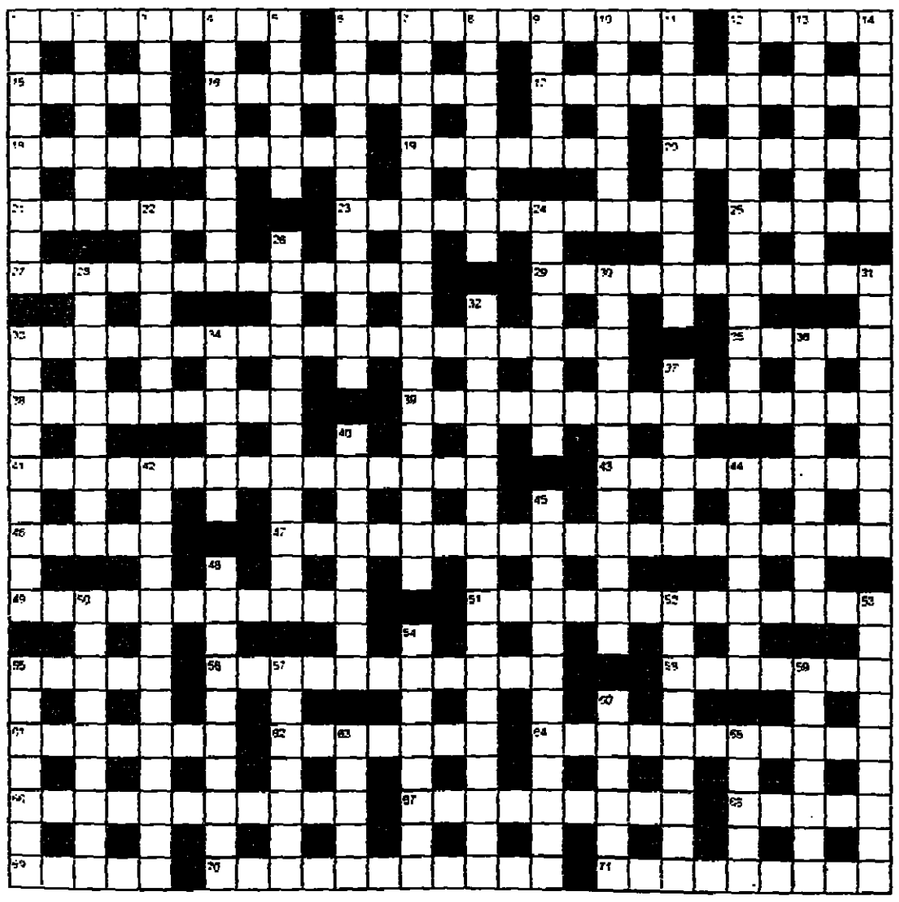
But it does show the innumerable oceans that make up the English language and the romance that lies beneath the surface of every word.

Why *do* you spell the California poppy Eschischol(tzia, pray?

## JUMBO CROSSWORD 150




The prize for the first correct solution to be opened will be an Alfred Dunhill AD2000, worth £125, the world's first interchangeable, capless rollerball/ballpoint pen. Streamlined and made from black resin with a gold-plated clip, it has perfect writing balance. Entries should be sent to: Jumbo Crossword 150, *The Times*, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN to arrive by Thursday, February 19. The name of the winner will be published in Weekend on February 21



NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

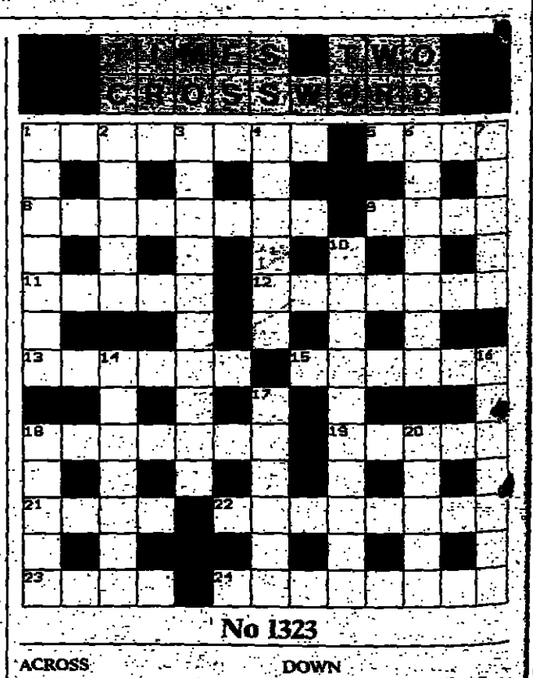
..... POSTCODE .....

**ACROSS**

1 Spiteful leader of coup in African state promises to settle scores (9)
6 Americans' attack on left — British side deployed this army (11)
12 Spirit of those moving back to the front (5)
15 Move into ground, occupying main terraces (5)
16 Going out to research fool play on pitch (5,4)
17 Hiking group given external support (11)
18 Instrument played by Handel, so to speak (6,5)
19 Put in dates incorrectly in a certain calendar? (7)
20 Bound to be beaten after bridge opponents open with clubs (7)
21 Briskly scored a half-century with cricket side, getting runs at Oval (7)
23 How a birdie, eagle or albatross is produced (11)
25 Duck left in water, a young bird (5)
27 No cadets among these Trinity House governors (5,8)
29 On cue, wildly blowing one's top? That's hopeful (11)
33 My son carries a different burden — scared bird (6,6,7)
35 Daughter and another relative going after cow (5)
38 Put cheese round with revolting fruit (9)
39 The principle behind an evening out for everyone (15)
41 End with teen contrite, if reformed here? (9,6)
43 Outraged, I announce there's a playwright present (9)
46 Revolutionary leader who died in bloodbath, so to speak (5)
47 Diet that should be politically correct (11,8)
49 A Jumbo, for example, should stay within its limits (3,8)
51 Senses caution — it could be reluctance to let go (13)
55 Leading characters in this opera sing celebrated arias (5)
56 Not prepared to believe I could nurse invalid (11)
58 Stress after one enters poetry competition (7)
61 Pair appearing early in garden save American shrub (7)
62 Composer carrying small volume to English or French port (2,5)
64 Coach with fine side found anxiety among players (5-6)
66 Abundantly supplying cereal, you said, to Bobby and John in Scotland (11)
67 Lecturer meeting class resistance in Northern town (9)
68 Very old South American plant (5)
69 Part of strategy Ptolemy adopted for his country (5)
70 A demure miss stupidly got the wrong size (11)
71 Gunmen no longer live in Welsh town (9)

**DOWN**

1 Yard's support coming from force, British one (4,5)
2 Printing error in a line at end of American volume (7)
3 Charming female from Circle Line vanishes (5)
4 Blue or red? (3-6)
5 Vehicle said to inflict casualties (6)
6 The reason for the blinking toast? (3,2,4,3)
7 Church member in sect isn't rich, as it turns out (9,9)
8 Paying back a pound after another performance ends prematurely (8)
9 Hard — and them some — to get out of this? (5)
10 Small bones left out of covers (7)
11 For which manufacture's beginning with sap purely processed? (5,5)
12 Publication supporting comprehensive education (13)
13 The people of Athens enjoy rhymes (3,6)
14 Imply most complacent male must be dismissed (7)
22 Plant German botanist originally discovered one time (7)
24 Going over the top to slaughter excessively (8)
26 Key word for describing national standard (4-8)
28 Turned up binding on primer (9)
30 One may have to stand a long time before getting this seat (12)
31 Proceeds to get ready to support sport (4,5)
32 Volunteer to reign with an awful deputy ruler (10-8)
33 Tree road-maker spotted on A1, heading north (9)
34 Composer about to jump on board (6)
36 Powerless to accept condition, one is ripe for merger (9)
37 Course at Oxford for outstanding people (6)
40 Anchor and endlessly reel in fish and other things in this (8)
42 Preserving body of citizen tied up, we hear (8,5)
44 Poet among blasphemers, one discovered (7)
45 Understanding point to be valid source of evidence (7-5)
48 Note disturbance with cats and dogs that confuses the head (10)
50 Cane for this rude noise? (9)
52 Shift throne to first of Tudors in succession (2,3,4)
53 Can USA try alien given immunity from arrest? (9)
54 Book, having translated query about your destination (3,5)
55 Controlled about cutting the slice (7)
57 Writer making a couple of quid in hard cash (7)
59 Actress is genuine in getting to the top (7)
60 Ray goes round university town in Italy (6)
63 What's central to everything? Exactly! (5)
65 Man who composed the party line (5)




**No 1323**

**ACROSS**

1 Place limits on (8)
5 Hinged part: minor panic (4)
8 Prince Regent, as king (6,2)
9 Smile nastily, foolishly (4)
11 Dead Roman tongue (5)
12 Claw-on-rope device; small anchor (7)
13 Red-haired (6)
15 With full force; strike call (3,3)
18 Extend; jail term (7)
19 Letter-shaped steak (1-4)
21 Tale of ancient gods (4)
22 Old US frontier zone (4,4)
23 Not at home (4)
24 Take no risk (4,4)

**DOWN**

1 Emblems of royalty (7)
2 Good loser; one not bred true (5)
3 Enliven; born again (10)
4 Cower fawningly (6)
6 Jessica's lover (M of V) (7)
7 Flat section of wood; jury (5)
10 Knock off work (4,2,1,3)
14 RC priest's hat (7)
16 Table-top support (7)
17 Frisson (6)
18 Brazilian dance (5)
20 Music drama (5)

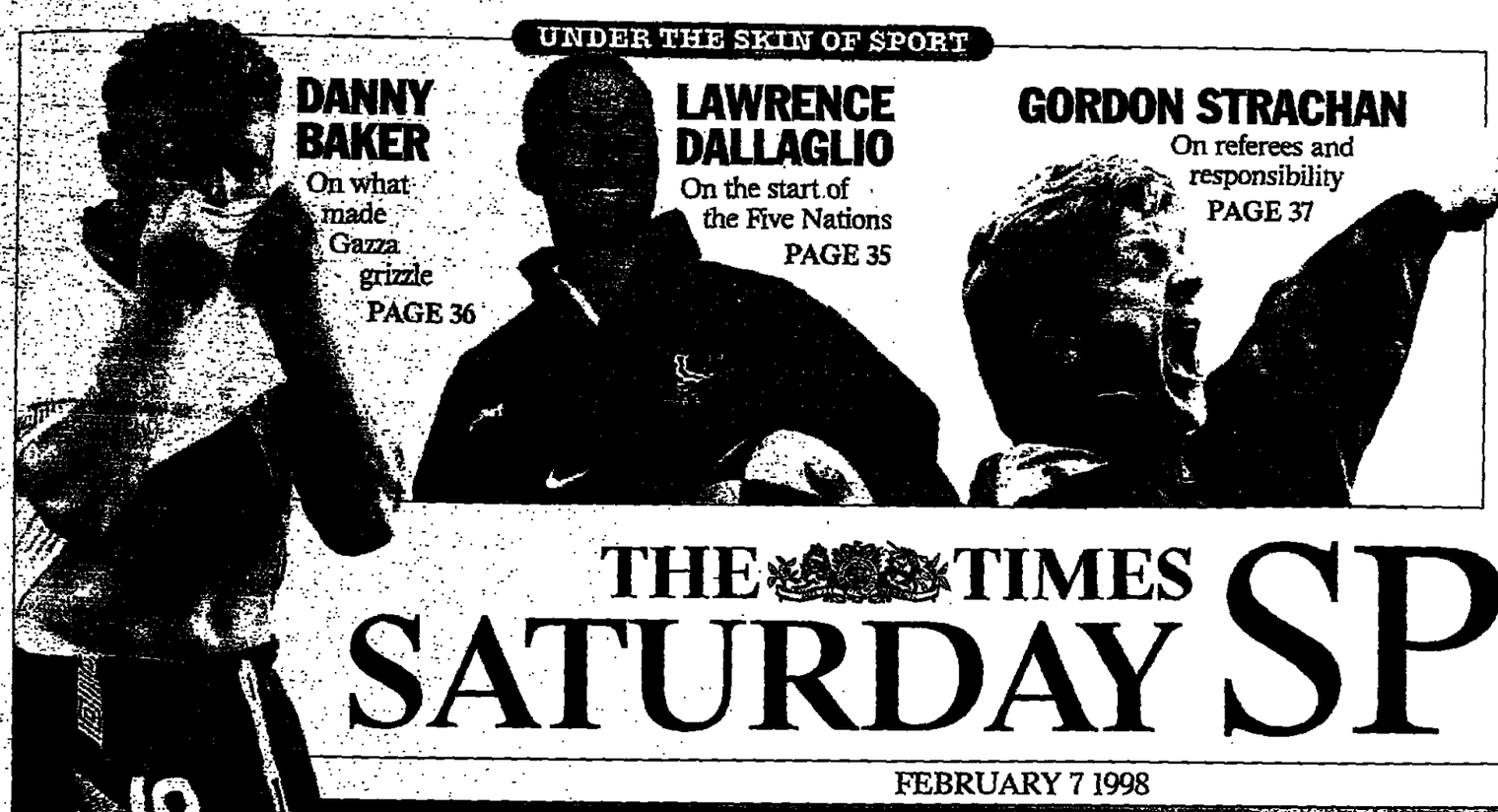
*SOLUTION TO NO 1322*
ACROSS: 7 Crank 8 Alewife 9 Triumph 10 Swift 11 Help 12 Penknife 15 Disaster 16 Spot 19 Razor 21 Emerson 22 Solicit 23 Spoke
DOWN: 1 Scotch 2 Basilius 3 Skimp 4 Netsuke 5 Kiwi 6 Beetle 8 Achievement 13 Impostor 14 Ostrich 15 Duress 17 Tender 18 Jesse 20 Zola

THE TIMES BOOKSHOP

NEW TIMES CROSSWORD TITLES NOW AVAILABLE!

The Times Two Crosswords (Book 7 £2.99), The Times Crosswords (Book 20 Cryptic £2.99), The Times Jumbo Crosswords Book 3 is available to Times readers for just £4 (RRP £5.99) while supplies last from The Times Bookshop.
The Times Computer Crosswords on disk may also be ordered, with free delivery, along with any other books from The Times Bookshop.
To order simply call 0990 134 450 for credit card orders or for further details. If paying by cheque/PO(s) please make payable to News Books/Crosswords and send to: The Times Bookshop, PO Box 345, Falmouth, TR11 5YZ. Delivery in 10-14 days and subject to availability.

هكذا من الاصل



UNDER THE SKIN OF SPORT

**DANNY BAKER**
On what made Gazza grizzle
PAGE 36

**LAWRENCE DALLAGLIO**
On the start of the Five Nations
PAGE 35

**GORDON STRACHAN**
On referees and responsibility
PAGE 37



WEEKEND MONEY
Buried treasure – how to trace a lost account
PAGE 52



go
Slipping and sliding – new ways to avoid a skid
PAGE 45

THE TIMES
# SATURDAY SPORT
12 PAGES

FEBRUARY 7 1998

19 HUSSAIN REVIVES HOPES WITH UNBEATEN 61

# Fraser's double measure lifts England

FROM ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT IN PORT OF SPAIN

THE suspicion that England have uncovered a cricket team of character, substance and desire gathered heartening new evidence at Queen's Park Oval yesterday as they scratched and clawed for control of a second Test being played in riveting slow motion.

On another substandard pitch, England gave themselves a chance of victory with a score of 214 in which Nasser Hussain remained unbeaten on 61 after more than five hours of attrition. Their bowlers then advanced the optimism by taking three West Indies wickets for 48.

Runs were coming at barely two per over and there was no suggestion that the match would produce many of them. This, however, was intense, passionate cricket, a game played in the minds of all involved, for to win this initial contest will be to stake a mighty claim for this series.

On a morning of stifling heat, the two remaining England wickets claimed an immeasurable bonus in extending the innings by 90 minutes and 39 runs. To be strictly accurate, one wicket was responsible, for the overnight pairing of Hussain and Angus Fraser negotiated 20 overs before Fraser and Phil Tufnell were out to consecutive balls.

That Fraser was beaten regularly by movement off the seam and that Hussain was subjected to three balls that barely bounced shin-high will have caused no dismay on the England balcony, for it was no longer in their interests for this pitch to reform its behaviour. A total of 214 was beyond their expectations at 143 for seven, but it gave them a competitive position only so long as conditions did not improve.

Hussain's innings was a monument to patience, in more than one sense. To bat for 315 minutes in such circumstances reflected great credit on his technique and application. Remarkably, it was Hussain's first half-century against West Indies and he has had to wait eight years for it since his debut here in 1990.

Battered around the hands and arms on Thursday evening, Hussain resumed yesterday at the non-striker's end and watched Fraser struck on the helmet as he ducked into Kenny Benjamin's first ball. The bounce and pace remained untrustworthy and Fraser will enjoy regaling many a company with the mysteries of his survival against Curtly Ambrose.

More than any other ground in the world, more even than Perth, Trinidad is Ambrose territory. Here, he proves he does not need quick pitches to profit, instead throttling back in pace and extending his length and probing with skill and perseverance.

Ambrose was masterful throughout Thursday and again yesterday morning. He passed the bat so often that he will never know how he failed to add Fraser's wicket to his three in the innings and the 33 he has now registered, at the cost of ten runs apiece, in his past five Tests on this ground.

While Ambrose wheeled away from one end, Lara deployed his resources thoughtfully from the other. His bowling changes tended to bring swift results on the first day but now, as Benjamin and McLean strayed in length, he shuffled the pack in vain.

Hussain had reached his fifty from the 173rd ball he received and he had hit only three of them for four. Boundary opportunities were so rare, indeed, that when he did advance to straight-drive Carl Hooper, it was his first four in 44 overs and almost three hours of self-denial.

The crowd was sparse, those on the open stand sheltering under sun umbrellas, and it was also unusually subdued by Caribbean standards. For West Indian supporters, there was an air of waiting for something to happen, of waiting for their prince to arrive. For England, every ball survived was reason for optimism and the spirits of their own small band of followers, bearing banners from Horsham, Hartlepool and Thrapston, rose accordingly.

The element of frustration being imposed was all in England's favour but Lara, cool and smiling, kept rotating his bowlers until Benjamin, recalled for a second spell, had the gallant Fraser caught behind as he flinched involuntarily at a rising ball.

Fraser had batted 98 minutes and helped Hussain add 44. It was his highest score in 13 Tests against West Indies and he looked justly proud. Tufnell did not fare quite so well, his feet in No 11 territory, some way out of line, as he edged the next ball to first slip.

England were left with 20 minutes' bowling before lunch and it was enough to know that batting would look no easier for the opposition. Discipline of line was England's essential and if Ambrose had set the standards, Andy Caddick rose quickly to requirements with an accurate and unlucky first spell.

It was Caddick who bowled the most alarming ball of the day, pitching on a good length and taking off almost vertically to fly past the nose of Sherwin Campbell and over a despairing leap by Russell for four byes. The breach England so needed, however, was made by Dean Headley.

There are times when Headley's bowling resembles an old sports car on a cold morning, misfiring through lack of rhythm and regular no-balls. There is a vintage engine in this complaining body, however, and he produced a beauty to account for Campbell. The ball cut back, took an inside edge and was expertly caught low down by Russell.

Stuart Williams, struggling for form, survived a claimed wicketkeeping catch on the judgment of the third umpire before being caught at extra cover off the leading edge as he aimed a rash legside shot. The bowler, in both instances, was Fraser, sustaining his memorable day by plodding in and dropping the ball on a challenging length. Carl Hooper was instantly disconcerted, hopping too far across to a ball that darted back to bowl him behind his legs.

With West Indies 48 for three, England were on top for the first time in the match. There was still the small matter of Lara to address, however, and the advent of Chanderpaul heralded the pivotal partnership of the innings, possibly the match.

Lara began circumspectly, offering the full face of the bat and crouching respectfully behind the line. After tea, however, he became more expansive, striking two fours in the first over from Caddick before, as a reminder that such conditions can equalise any talent, almost playing on against a lack of bounce.

CLIVE MASON / ALLSPORT



REBECCA NADEN



REBECCA NADEN



Ambrose and his fellow bowlers were frustrated by the resistance of Hussain before Headley made the first breakthrough for England in Port of Spain yesterday

## SCOREBOARD FROM PORT OF SPAIN

ENGLAND: First innings
*M A Atherton c Lara b Ambrose ... 11 (65min, 52 balls, 1 four)
A J Stewart lbw b Benjamin ... 50 (171min, 126 balls, 7 fours)
J P Crawley c S C Williams b Ambrose .. 17 (143min, 100 balls, 1 four)
N Hussain not out ... 61 (318min, 202 balls, 4 fours)
G P Thorpe c D Williams b Hooper ... 8 (22min, 19 balls, 1 four)
A J Hollioake run out (Chanderpaul/D Williams) ... 2 (26min, 18 balls)
†R C Russell c S C Williams b McLean .. 0 (4min, 2 balls)
A R Caddick lbw b Walsh ... 8 (44min, 23 balls, 1 four)
D W Headley c D Williams b Ambrose ... 11 (71min, 57 balls, 1 four)
A R C Fraser c D Williams b Benjamin .. 17 (98min, 69 balls, 1 four)
P C R Tufnell c Lara b Benjamin ... 0 (1min, 1 ball)
Extras (b 8, lb 10, nb 13) ... 29
Total (109 overs, 468min) ... 214

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-25 (Stewart 11), 2-87 (Crawley 14), 3-105 (Hussain 12), 4-114 (Hussain 13), 5-124 (Hussain 21), 6-126 (Hussain 22), 7-143 (Hussain 31), 8-172 (Hussain 43), 9-214 (Hussain 61).
BOWLING: Walsh 27-7-55-1 (nb 2; 5 fours; 8-2-13-0, 9-5-12-0, 7-0-23-1, 5-0-7-0); Ambrose 28-16-23-3 (nb 3; 1 four; 5-3-4-0, 3-1-3-1, 7-5-8-1, 11-7-8-1); McLean 19-7-28-1 (nb 5; 2 fours; 6-2-13-0, 2-0-5-0, 3-1-4-0, 8-4-3-1, 2-0-3-0); Benjamin 24-5-68-3 (nb 3; 6 fours; 3-0-13-0, 11-3-30-1, 9-1-25-0, 1-1-0-2); Hooper 9-3-14-1 (2 fours; 1-1-0-0, 4-1-5-1, 2-1-1-0, 2-0-8-0); Adams 3-0-8-0 (nb 1; 1 four; 1-0-4-0, 2-0-4-0); Chanderpaul 1-0-2-0.

WEST INDIES: First innings
S L Campbell c Russell b Headley ... 1 (43min, 43 balls)
S C Williams c Atherton b Fraser ... 19 (95min, 58 balls, 3 fours)
*B C Lara not out ... 40 (122min, 79 balls, 5 fours)
C L Hooper b Fraser ... 1 (9min, 5 balls)
S Chanderpaul not out ... 19 (59min, 40 balls, 2 fours)
Extras (b 8, lb 3, nb 7) ... 18
Total (3 wkts, 36 overs, 165min) ... 98

J C Adams, †D Williams, C E L Ambrose, K C G Benjamin, N A M McLean and C A Walsh to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-16 (S C Williams 3), 2-42 (Lara 9), 3-48 (Lara 11)
BOWLING: Headley 13-5-24-1 (nb 6, 2 fours; 8-3-11-1, 5-2-13-0); Caddick 12-3-39-0 (nb 3; 5 fours; 9-3-12-0, 3-0-27-0); Fraser 6-1-20-2 (3 fours; 5-0-20-2, 1-1-0-0); Tufnell 5-3-4-0 (one spell).

Umpires: S A Bucknor and S Venkataraghavan (India).
☐ Compiled by Bill Frindall

ONE simple price TO OVER 200 COUNTRIES
CHEAPER than BT.
THINK st

| Destination | BT | FT | Savings |
|---|---|---|---|
| AUSTRALIA | 49p | 20p | 59% |
| FRANCE | 28p | 15p | 47% |
| JAPAN | 67p | 23p | 66% |
| REP. IRELAND | 23p | 12p | 48% |
| USA | 24p | 10p | 58% |

All comparisons against BT standard base rates for 1 minute call including VAT. FT rates effective from 12th January 1998

This is for everyone who's confused by all BT's different discount schemes.

First Telecom has one price to any country, any time of day, any day of the week. And, to over 200 countries, that price is always the same: "cheaper than BT".

If you've got a BT phone, you can get First Telecom's service added to it just by dialling the number below.

You can open an account with us any time, and start saving straight away.

Before you make another international call, think first.

FIRST TELECOM
0800 458 6666

# Humble pie not on the menu as bacon rolls start to fly

LYNNE TRUSS

So here's the news, unfortunately. Regrettable scenes broke out this week between plucky minnows, Smallplace Borough, and overbearing Premiership stars, Bigbeggar United, when Smallplace were awarded a top place in the *Colman's Football Food Guide*, and Bigbeggar came 79th.

"Our excellent cheap bacon rolls make Bigbeggar's vegiburgers look like underdone, overpriced swill," Smallplace's portly chairman claimed. He wiped his hands on a napkin, brushed crumbs from his lapel. "We have exposed the myth and shown Bigbeggar's fare up as soggy. What hurts is that Bigbeggar have at no point congratulated us, either before or after our result; they have shown us no respect; they have sulked like children. Which is stupid of them, because obviously my dad is bigger than their dad. And what I'd like finally to say to Bigbeggar is: See that big pile of gluey, smelly onion? That's your dinner, that is."

The world of football (or me, anyway) was rocked to its foundations by this opening shot in what was certain to become a hurtful, insulting war of words. Bigbeggar's lofty manager maintained a creditable lofty silence for a day or so, until — tormented beyond endurance by these cruel stiletto gibes — he spoke out, denouncing Smallplace with all the loftiness at his command. Speaking through an interpreter, he said: "I insist that Smallplace shows proper respect to my vegiburgers. Swill? Since when has the language of the playground been our means of conducting ourselves? Eh? Eh? Want some, Jimmy? Do you? Fancy yourself, do you? But this is not the playground, even if the chairman of Smallplace thinks it is. You will note I have maintained a lofty silence, which is by far the more mature course. But I feel bound to point out that it's absolutely not true that their dad is bigger than our dad. Quite the reverse. Our dad is much, much bigger than their dad. Our dad is gi-normous, and has got pots of money and a brilliant car, and their mum cleans toilets for a living. I've seen her and so have all my friends.

"Personally, I feel sorry for the bacon rolls," he continued. "The bacon rolls have acquitted themselves in an honest bacon-roll sort of way, but have unfortunately been encouraged by their success to get over-heated and a bit crisp. They claim they have been misquoted! Well, pardon me for using a bit of (ha, ha) wry lofty sarcasm here, but how a bacon roll is misquoted on television is beyond me. The fact remains, there was no need to get nasty about my overpriced vegiburgers. Overpriced or not, vegiburgers have feelings too. I hope Smallplace's bacon rolls are topped by an even cheaper Wagon Wheel in the next contest. And that's all I have to say on the matter, because as I may have mentioned earlier, I am maintaining a lofty silence."

What a terrible state of affairs. After the result was announced, top vegiburgers refused even to swap buns! Regrettably, "this is not the playground," a Bigbeggar vegiburger priced at £15 million said. "We Bigbeggars have refused to get involved in a slanging match, because we're more mature than that, and we know how to respect people even if they don't. However, I think I should point out that I've been to Smallplace's home ground and it smells."

**RACING:** IRELAND'S LEADING GOLD CUP HOPE GETS CHANCE TO MAKE AMENDS FOR NAAS LAPSE

# Dorans Pride has point to prove

By Chris McGrath

THE Irish will not permit depressing talk of wooden spoons to extend beyond the first leg of Dublin's sporting weekend. However their team fares against Scotland at Lansdowne Road today, they go to Leopardstown tomorrow with nothing on their minds but silverware — at next month's Cheltenham Festival.

The Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup should reveal who can bear the raiding party's standard in the Tote Cheltenham Gold Cup. The honour is contested by Imperial Call, the equine hero at Cheltenham in 1996, and Dorans Pride, third as a novice last year.

The next generation, however, is most vividly represented by **Florida Pearl**, who has been soberly backed for next year's Gold Cup after just one outing over fences. His clash with Hill Society and Boss Doyle in the Dr P J Moriarty Novices' Chase will, no doubt, place in due perspective extravagant talk of the reincarnation of Arkle.

Dorans Pride, thwarted by a minor training setback, missed an intended encounter with Imperial Call in the Ericsson Chase. Instead, the next day Florida Pearl became the talk of the Leopardstown Christmas meeting, romping home by 20 lengths.

When Dorans Pride surfaced at Naas just five days afterwards, it was almost as though his status as the great green hope had been drained hollow. He could reasonably be expected to fail, shouldering a big weight in desperate conditions, over a trip short of his best. Yet his instincts seem to desert him entirely, as he faltered and groped his way round, trailing in last of five. Michael Hourigan, his trainer, never discovered what was amiss, but is now satisfied that Dorans Pride is back on song.

Everything had been going so smoothly beforehand. Dorans Pride had won three races with serene confidence, including one at Clonmel in November at the expense of Imperial Call. He had already shrugged off 12 stone in the Kerry National, whereas Imperial Call was having his first outing since being pulled up in a dispirited defence of his Cheltenham crown.

In the circumstances, it was encouraging to see Imperial Call travel strongly to the second-last before his rival quickened away. He emerged to run a fine race over timber at Navan, overhauled close home by Cockney Lad.

Nonetheless, the fact that he was left with little to beat at Christmas means the jury is still out. His seven-length defeat of Merry Gale was not entirely smooth. Tomorrow, Imperial Call gets his chance to revive the grandeur of his performance in this race en route to Cheltenham two years ago.

Having travelled with an imperious air through the Ericsson, jumping well, he tired quickly once he went clear in the straight, and Conor O'Dwyer eased him right up.

**Dorans Pride** is marginally preferred tomorrow, although both horses have something to prove. Not as much, admittedly, as Go Ballistic, the main British hope, who has contributed to his yard's disappointing season. The Gold Cup fourth did show signs of life at Ascot last time, but the locals will not be distracted from the main showdown — except, perhaps, by Florida Pearl.

**Ramden case, page 7**
***Other cards, page 44***

**RICHARD EVANS**

**Nap: Cattly Hang**
(2.55 Wetherby)

**Cattly Hang is a progressive chaser who runs particularly well at Wetherby. Impressive when successful over course and distance last time, he can follow up off a 6lb higher mark.**

**Next best: Nahthen Lad**
(2.20 Uttoxeter)



CAROLINE NORRIS

*Dorans Pride, prone to errors when disappointing at Naas last time out, looks to regain the winning thread in the Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup at Leopardstown tomorrow*

## LEOPARDSTOWN TOMORROW

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT

**3.40 HENNESSY COGNAC GOLD CUP** BBC2
(Grade I: £58,000: 3m) (8 runners)

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 12146-4 | ANABATIC 14 (F,G,S) (W Phelan) M J O'Brien 10-12-0 | T P Rudd | 148 |
| 2 | 5F-FPPP | CORKET 14 (G,S) (S O Sullivan) A P O'Brien 8-12-0 | A Dobbin | 130 |
| 3 | 31-1115 | DORANS PRIDE 36 (BF,CD,F,G,S) (T Doran) M Hourigan 9-12-0 | R Dunwoody | [167] |
| 4 | 4P-P54U | GO BALLISTIC 16 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs B Lockhart) J O'Shea (GB) 9-12-0 | M A Fitzgerald | 155 |
| 5 | 4/13053 | HERMES HARVEST 29 (B,D,G,S) (B Palmer) D Williams (GB) 10-12-0 | Mr S Durack | 143 |
| 6 | 43P-221 | IMPERIAL CALL 42 (CD,G,S) (Lisselan Farms Ltd) F Sutherland 9-12-0 | C O'Dwyer | 161 |
| 7 | -413212 | MERRY GALE 8 (BF,C,G,S) (H Stanley) J Dreaper 10-12-0 | N Williamson | 159 |
| 8 | 143-030 | DUN BELLE 10 (D,G,S) (Mrs A Connolly) P Fahy 9-11-9 | T P Treacy | 138 |

BETTING: 11-10 Dorans Pride, 6-4 Imperial Call, 7-1 Merry Gale, 10-1 Go Ballistic, 25-1 Hermes Harvest, 33-1 Corket, 50-1 Anabatic, Dun Belle

# Daraydan to prove pick of Pipe's strong entry

**SANDOWN PARK**
**CHANNEL 4**

2.30: Shadow Leader, best coming from off a strong pace, was beaten in a sprint finish at Kempton on his reappearance, but this could turn into something similar. It is worrying that he carried his head awkwardly under pressure.

The David Nicholson-trained Sanmartino, also caught out by the false pace in third, had been progressing nicely, while a revival is expected in the fortunes of the next home, **I'm Supposin.** The Champion Hurdle fourth has excuses for recent disappointments and could represent value. Mary Reveley finally steps the unbeaten Marello up in class, but she could find conditions against her.

3.05: Jack Doyle has romped home twice since moving to Nigel Twiston-Davies's stable, but he may not be the sort to find a great deal off the bridle — he edged right up the hill at Cheltenham last week. Also, he has not had much chance to recover and this is faster ground. Cyfor Malta, impressive on his British debut here, receives a useful 10lb weight-for-age allowance, but is an unknown quantity on this going.

Dr Leunt's recent sequence looks rather hollow, and Wayward King could reverse Ascot form over this trip. He is prone to mistakes, however. **Chief's Song** has fewest question marks, as he jumps well, loves fast ground and goes well right-handed. Morever, he could be an improved performer over this trip.



TODAY'S RACES ON TELEVISION

3.35: **Cool Dawn** has been found yet another uncompetitive race offering decent prize-money, though he needed plenty of courage to complete his Ascot treble under a big weight. One must hope that the race has not left its mark, but his fine jumping could steal this over the railway fences. The well-treated Destin D'Estruval is unconvincing at this trip, but Court Melody may be well suited by dropping back from even further.

4.10: Big Strand has obvious prospects after advertising his continued progress on his seasonal reappearance at Kempton, though there has also been money for his stable companion, Harbour Island, who is 19lb better off with another Pipe runner, Daraydan, compared with their third and sixth placings behind Istabraq at Cheltenham last year.

However, Harbour Island is not a straightforward performer, while **Daraydan** will relish the ground after getting bogged down last time out. A gifted claimer, Xavier Aizpuru, reduces his burden and he is worth a bet.



**Gifford: Sandown hope**

Far Dawn and Whip Hand are from stables having a quiet spell, and also are not certain to stay. Mistinguett is penalised for beating some out-of-form rivals at Cheltenham last week, while Princeful and Friendship have been progressing on easier ground.

4.40: The well-bred Colour Code beat little of note on his hurdling debut at Market Rasen and is unlikely to be great value. Josh Gifford's contender, **Kurakka**, has shaped well over two miles and, while he will not come into his own until going chasing, this much stiffer test will suit him well. Brush With Fame could improve markedly on this faster going, but would be better off in handicaps.

**UTTOXETER**
**BBC1**

1.15: Some promising novices run here, none more so than **Careysville**, who can shrug off a 14lb higher mark than when winning with farcical ease at Ludlow last time. He will take all the beating and is yet another feather in the cap of Venetia Williams. Mountain Path may be the biggest danger after producing an improved performance last time. Another good prospect is Strong Chairman, though he has plenty on his plate.

1.45: Lucia Forte evidently goes well fresh, winning easily at Huntingdon, but that was not much of a race with the favourite disappointing. **Winn's Pride**, successful over course and distance, has been doing well in unsuitably testing conditions, and could prove well treated back on this drying ground.

2.20: The Jenny Pitman-trained Nahthen Lad, though served least well by the weights going up, can be expected to mount a bold effort after confirming his return to form at Haydock last time. He does not look a particularly easy ride, however, whereas **Him Of Praise** is positively exuberant after five consecutive victories. Still lightly raced, the eight-year-old will like this course, even if he would prefer it slightly easier underfoot. There are question marks over the jumping of Ottowa and Martell Boy, who endured a really taxing race last time.

Chris McGrath

## SANDOWN PARK

THUNDERER

1.25 Leading Note
1.55 Storm Alert
2.30 I'm Supposin.
3.05 Cyfor Malta
3.35 Destin D'Estruval
4.10 Daraydan
4.40 Claudia Electric

**GUIDE TO OUR IN-LINE RACECARD**

101 113143 GOOD TIMES 13 (BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 12-0 .......... B West (7) 88

Racecard number. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing: F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. Timekeeper's speed rating.

GOING: GOOD (GOOD TO FIRM IN PLACES) SIS
TOTE JACKPOT MEETING

**1.25 RIPLEY JUVENILE NOVICES HURDLE**
(4-Y-O: £3,664: 2m 110yd) (10 runners)

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 101 | 2F1 | CITY HALL 28 (CD,S) (Mrs R Kay & Mrs V Ward) Mrs V Ward 11-8 | N Williamson | 118 |
| 102 | 1 | SIR TALBOT 17 (D,S) (W Short) J Old 11-4 | M A Fitzgerald | [127] |
| 103 | 3215 | TOUGH ACT 54 (CD,S) (Mrs R Doel) Mrs A Perrett 11-4 | C Maude | 106 |
| 104 | 5P2 | COPPER SHELL 17 (Eastbury Racing Club) A P Jones 11-0 | A Thornton | 111 |
| 105 | 0 | SPICK AND SPAN 17 (Essandess Partners) P Hedger 11-0 | G Tormey | 99 |
| 106 | | ABAJANY 119F (J Webb & Partners) M Channon 10-10 | D Byrne | – |
| 107 | | PERICLES 14F (Miss G Kelleway) Gay Kelleway 10-10 | C Llewellyn | – |
| 108 | | PREMIER BAY 119F (E Thornton) P Hobbs 10-10 | R Dunwoody | – |
| 109 | | LEADING NOTE 115F (The Leaders) Miss H Knight 10-5 | B Fenton | – |
| 110 | | RUMBUSTIOUS 71F (C Curtis) J S Moore 10-5 | J Magee (3) | – |

BETTING: 10-11 Sir Talbot, 7-2 City Hall, 6-1 Tough Act, 10-1 Premier Bay, 12-1 Copper Shell, 14-1 others.
1997: HAYAAIN 10-10 J Railton (8-1) K Bailey 10 ran.

**1.55 ELMBRIDGE HANDICAP CHASE** (£7,295: 2m) (4 runners)

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 201 | 3420-4F | BIG MATT 80 (D,F,G,S) (T Benfield, W Brown) N Henderson 10-12-0 | M A Fitzgerald | 133 |
| 202 | 164-335 | STORM ALERT 49 (CD,F,G,S) (Mrs D Parrott) D Nicholson 12-11-13 | R Dunwoody | [160] |
| 203 | 33-2145 | LEOTARD 21 (CD,F,G,S) (Mrs P Hartley) Miss V Williams 11-11-13 | N Williamson | 155 |
| 204 | 42-3FRP | OH SO RISKY 83 (D,F,G) (M Tabor) D Elsworth 11-11-6 | P Holley | 122 |

BETTING: 7-4 Storm Alert, 2-1 Leotard, 5-2 Big Matt, 7-1 Oh So Risky
1997: CERTAINLY STRONG 7-10-0 R Dunwoody (9-4 fav) D Nicholson 4 ran

**2.30 AGFA HURDLE** (£10,114: 2m 110yd) (6 runners) C4

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 301 | 1111-2 | SHADOW LEADER 42 (D,F,G,S) (J Blackshaw) C Egerton 7-11-5 | N Williamson | 154 |
| 302 | 61-1113 | SANMARTINO 42 (BF,D,F,G,S) (K Abdulla) D Nicholson 6-11-4 | R Dunwoody | [170] |
| 303 | 140-234 | I'M SUPPOSIN 42 (D,S) (N Cooper) R Rowe 6-11-0 | D Bridgwater | 163 |
| 304 | 1111-11 | MARELLO 15 (D,G,S) (Mr & Mrs W Williams) Mrs M Reveley 7-10-13 | P Niven | 144 |
| 305 | 2000-53 | MASTER BEVELED 22F (D,G,S) (Mrs E Williams) P Evans 8-10-9 | A P McCoy | 150 |
| 306 | 11F0P/ | DEBUTANTE DAYS 105F (CD,G) (Mrs S Brasher) Miss H Knight 6-10-4 | M A Fitzgerald | – |

BETTING: 6-4 Shadow Leader, 9-4 Marello, 5-2 Sanmartino, 10-1 I'm Supposin, 20-1 Debutante Days, 25-1 Master Beveled.
1997: DOUBLE SYMPHONY 9-10-4 J Osborne (13-2) C Brooks 6 ran

FORM FOCUS Shadow Leader ¾l 2nd of 5 to Karawi in hurdle grade 1 at Kempton (2m, soft) with Sanmartino (1lb better off) 4¾l 3rd and I'm Supposin (5lb better off) 13l 4th. Marello beat Political Tower 5l in 4-runner handicap hurdle at Kelso (2m 110yd, heavy). Master Beveled 2½l 3rd of 8 to Thrower in handicap hurdle at Haydock (2m 4f, good to soft). Debutante Days pulled up in hurdle at Chepstow (2m 110yd, good to firm); previously 21l 9th of 11 to Zabadi in novice hurdle grade 2 at Aintree (2m 110yd, good).

MARELLO, potentially top-class, is confidently expected to maintain her unbeaten record

**3.05 SCILLY ISLES NOVICES CHASE** C4
(Grade I: £20,752: 2m 4f 110yd) (6 runners)

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 401 | 0-12151 | CHIEF'S SONG 49 (F,G,S) (Mrs A Devane) S Dow 8-11-6 | N Williamson | 139 |
| 402 | 50-1211 | DR LEUNT 21 (G,S) (P Emery) P Hobbs 7-11-6 | R Dunwoody | 143 |
| 403 | F0-124U | EULOGY 22 (BF,G) (N Cooper) R Rowe 8-11-6 | D Bridgwater | [149] |
| 404 | P01P-11 | JACK DOYLE 7 (D,S) (Dean Logistics) N Twiston-Davies 7-11-6 | C Llewellyn | 140 |
| 405 | 1-5U413 | WAYWARD KING 21 (G,S) (Fieldspring Racing) R Hodges 6-11-6 | T Dascombe | 128 |
| 406 | 0-32111 | CYFOR MALTA 28 (CD,G,S) (D Johnson) M Pipe 5-10-10 | A P McCoy | 130 |

BETTING: 13-8 Cyfor Malta, 3-1 Jack Doyle, 4-1 Dr Leunt, 8-4 Chief's Song, Eulogy, 12-1 Wayward King.
1997: STATELY HOME 6-11-6 N Williamson (5-1) P Bowen 6 ran

FORM FOCUS Chief's Song beat Jefferies 4l in 3-runner novice chase grade 2 at Ascot (2m 3f 110yd, good to soft). Dr Leunt beat Act Of Faith 2½l in 5-runner novice chase at Ascot (3m 110yd, soft) with Wayward King (3lb better off) 9¾l 3rd. Eulogy unseated rider in handicap chase at Kempton (3m, soft); previously 42l 4th of 6 to Fiddling The Facts in novice chase grade 1 at Kempton (3m, soft). Jack Doyle beat Spring Gale 8l in 8-runner novice handicap chase at Cheltenham (2m 5f, good to soft). Cyfor Malta beat Bengers Moor 3½l in novice chase at Sandown (2m 4f 110yd, good to soft)

CYFOR MALTA created a good impression here last time and will be hard to beat

**3.35 AGFA DIAMOND LIMITED HANDICAP CHASE** C4
(Grade II: £18,714: 3m 110yd) (6 runners)

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 501 | /4-0111 | COOL DAWN 15 (D,F,G,S) (Hon Mrs D Harding) R Alner 10-11-12 | A Thornton | [173] |
| 502 | 53/3-5P | AMTRAK EXPRESS 23 (CD,F,G,S) (Amtrak Ltd) Mrs J Pitman 11-11-2 | A P McCoy | 165 |
| 503 | /24F-2P | GREY SMOKE 56 (D,F,G,S) (Earl Cadogan) Miss H Knight 8-10-7 | M A Fitzgerald | 160 |
| 504 | 1-14F03 | DESTIN D'ESTRUVAL 23 (G,S) (D Mercer) D Nicholson 7-10-5 | R Dunwoody | 170 |
| 505 | 13-2234 | COURT MELODY 37 (B,D,G,S) (M Coburn) P Nicholls 10-10-5 | C Maude | 160 |
| 506 | 8032-1F | YEOMAN WARRIOR 37 (G,S) (Mrs H Alwen) R Rowe 11-10-5 | D Bridgwater | 137 |

Long handicap: Court Melody 9-13, Yeoman Warrior 9-12.
BETTING: Evens Cool Dawn, 4-1 Destin D'Estruval, 5-1 Yeoman Warrior, 8-1 Amtrak Express, 10-1 others.
1997: DEXTRA DOVE 10-11-2 N Williamson (8-1) S Earle 6 ran

FORM FOCUS Cool Dawn beat Oswell Lad 2l in 4-runner handicap chase at Ascot (3m 110yd, good to soft). Amtrak Express pulled up in chase at Wincanton (2m 5f, good to soft); previously 21l 5th of 6 to Red Blazer in handicap hurdle at Uttoxeter (2m 4f 110yd, good to soft). Grey Smoke pulled up in handicap chase at Doncaster (3m 2f, good); previously 1¾l 2nd of 4 to Danger Baby in handicap chase at Sandown (3m 110yd, good to firm). Destin D'Estruval 6l 3rd of 5 to River Mandate in handicap chase at Wetherby (3m 1f, soft). Court Melody 19l 4th of 10 to Kendal Cavalier in handicap chase at Cheltenham (4m 1f, good to soft). Yeoman Warrior fell in handicap chase at Cheltenham (2m 5f, good to soft); previously beat Flapjack Lad 30l in 6-runner handicap chase at Cheltenham (3m 5f, good).

COOL DAWN can strengthen his Cheltenham Gold Cup claims

**4.10 TOTE BOOKMAKERS SANDOWN HANDICAP HURDLE** C4
(Grade III: £27,370: 2m 6f) (14 runners)

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 601 | 3-26051 | MISTINGUETT 7 (F,G,S) (J Duggan) N Twiston-Davies 6-12-0 (5ex) | J Goldstein (7) | 153 |
| 602 | 21-1114 | DARAYDAN 43 (F,G,S) (D Johnson) M Pipe 6-11-10 | X Aizpuru (3) | 155 |
| 603 | 2P-2412 | PRINCEFUL 21 (BF,G,S) (R Hitchins) Mrs J Pitman 7-11-7 | R Dunwoody | 159 |
| 604 | 240-020 | MOORISH 28 (S) (A Fitzpatrick) N Twiston-Davies 8-11-6 | C Llewellyn | 140 |
| 605 | 0-PF214 | BUCKHOUSE BOY 15 (D,G,S) (Bawtry Boys) D Nicholson 8-11-3 | N Williamson | 150 |
| 606 | 11212P- | JATHIB 386 (D,F,G) (Crown Pig & Malling Sus Ltd) Mrs M Jones 7-11-3 | D Bridgwater | 154 |
| 607 | 12112-3 | BIG STRAND 14 (F,G,S) (C Jones) M Pipe 9-11-0 | A P McCoy | 144 |
| 608 | 11F-11F | FRIENDSHIP 43 (CD,G,S) (T Benfield, W Brown) N Henderson 6-10-12 | M A Fitzgerald | [160] |
| 609 | 120-212 | WHIP HAND 70 (BF,G,S) (Lady Lloyd Webber) J FitzGerald 7-10-12 | P Niven | 154 |
| 610 | /RR30-R | DARLING 43 (E,G) (Knight Hawks Partnership) M Pipe 6-10-11 | A Thornton | 122 |
| 611 | 43446-3 | OUTSET 70 (D,F,G,S) (M Kilner)-M Hammond 8-10-9 | Mr C Bonner (3) | 155 |
| 612 | 22-2300 | FAR DAWN 14 (C,F,G) (P Wiegand) Mrs A Perrett 5-10-7 | G Upton | 140 |
| 613 | 6022-30 | RUNAWAY PETE 15 (F,G) (J Smeaden) M Pipe 8-10-7 | J Evans | 138 |
| 614 | 1U66-5 | HARBOUR ISLAND 43 (B,F) (M Jones) M Pipe 6-10-3 | C Maude | 154 |

Long handicap: Mistinguett 11-10.
BETTING: 3-1 Big Strand, 6-1 Friendship, Princeful, 7-1 Harbour Island, 8-1 Mistinguett, Whip Hand, 10-1 Moorish, Outset, 16-1 Daraydan, 20-1 Buckhouse Boy, 25-1 Runaway Pete, 33-1 others.
1997: TULLYMURRY TOFF 6-11-1 E Callaghan (7-2) J Jefferson 13 ran

FORM FOCUS Mistinguett beat Bimsey 15l in 5-runner hurdle grade 1 at Cheltenham (2m 5f 110yd, good to soft). Daraydan beaten a distance 4th of 8 to Halle Derring in handicap hurdle at Kempton (3m 110yd, soft) with Friendship (4lb worse off) fell. Princeful 2½l 2nd of 18 to Splendid Thyne in handicap hurdle at Warwick (2m 4f 110yd, heavy). Moorish 7½l 11th of 20 to Graphic Equaliser in handicap hurdle at Leopardstown (2m, good to soft). Buckhouse Boy 19l 4th of 10 to Tompetoo in handicap hurdle at Ascot (3m, soft) with Runaway Pete (1lb worse off) 40l 8th. Jathib pulled up in handicap chase grade 2 at Aintree (2m, good); previously 5l last of 2 to Amancio in novice chase at Ascot (2m, good to firm). Big Strand 1½l 3rd of 13 to Three Farthings in handicap hurdle at Kempton (2m 5f, good to soft) with Far Dawn (levels) 75l 11th. Whip Hand 1¾l 2nd of 8 to Star Rage in handicap hurdle grade 2 at Newcastle (2m, good). Outset 33l 3rd of 10 to Deano's Beeno in handicap hurdle at Haydock (2m 6f, soft). Harbour Island 21l 5th of 10 to Buckhouse Boy (4lb worse off) in handicap hurdle at Wincanton (2m 6f, good to soft) with Darling (levels) refused to race.

FRIENDSHIP had the race won when falling at Kempton and can gain compensation

**4.40 FEBRUARY NOVICES HURDLE** C4
(£3,599: 2m 6f) (7 runners)

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 11-1 | COLOUR CODE 43 (B,F,G,S) (B Walker) Mrs A Swinbank 6-11-5 | J Supple | 133 |
| 2 | 2-021 | GOOD LORD MURPHY 21 (S) (County Side) P Hobbs 6-11-5 | R Dunwoody | 132 |
| 3 | 3-000 | BRUSH WITH FAME 21 (J & B Gibbs & Sons Ltd) P Hobbs 6-11-0 | G Tormey | 110 |
| 4 | 56/1-1P | CLAUDIA ELECTRIC 19 (G,S) (Mrs M Johnsey) Miss C Johnsey 6-11-0 | D Gallagher | 108 |
| 5 | 25 | KURAKKA 21 (Mrs M Sweeney) J Gifford 5-11-0 | D Burrows (5) | [139] |
| 6 | 0/231/4 | LAKEFIELD LEADER 23 (G) (Newbury ROG) N Henderson 7-11-0 | M A Fitzgerald | 95 |
| 7 | 0P-00 | TARAKHEL 11 (M Smith) W Smith 5-11-0 | M Sharratt | 85 |

BETTING: 5-4 Colour Code, 7-2 Kurakka, 5-1 Good Lord Murphy, 6-1 Lakefield Leader, Claudia Electric, 16-1 others.
1997: EL FREDDIE 7-11-7 L Harvey (9-2) J Old 9 ran

FORM FOCUS Colour Code beat Ferrers 11l in 12-runner maiden hurdle at Market Rasen (2m 3f 110yd, heavy). Good Lord Murphy beat Rainbow Star 4l in 23-runner maiden hurdle at Warwick (2m 4f 110yd, heavy). Claudia Electric pulled up in novice hurdle at Fontwell (2m 6f 110yd, good to soft); previously beat Andanito 2l in 9-runner novice hurdle at Uttoxeter (2m 4f 110yd, good). Kurakka 27l 5th of 12 to Galfax in novice hurdle at Ascot (2m 110yd, soft) with Tarakhel (levels) 82l 10th. Lakefield Leader 7¾l 4th of 17 to Neat Feat in novice hurdle at Wincanton (2m, good to soft).

COLOUR CODE made an impressive debut over hurdles and will be hard to beat

**COURSE SPECIALISTS**

| TRAINERS | Wins | Runs | % | JOCKEYS | Winners | Rides | % |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| J FitzGerald | 4 | 10 | 40.0 | R Dunwoody | 23 | 98 | 23.5 |
| Mrs A Perrett | 3 | 8 | 37.5 | C Maude | 7 | 30 | 23.3 |
| J Old | 14 | 45 | 31.1 | A P McCoy | 14 | 73 | 19.2 |
| Mrs M Reveley | 6 | 20 | 30.0 | D Bridgwater | 7 | 40 | 17.5 |
| P Nicholls | 6 | 24 | 25.0 | A Thornton | 3 | 20 | 15.0 |
| D Nicholson | 19 | 80 | 23.8 | M A Fitzgerald | 10 | 90 | 11.1 |

## UTTOXETER

THUNDERER

1.15 Greville Again
1.45 Lough Tully
2.20 Him Of Praise
2.50 Glamanglitz
3.25 Strong Tel
3.55 Wren Warbler
4.30 Real Estate

*Timekeeper's top rating: 3.25 STRONG TEL.*

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT (GOOD IN PLACES) SIS

**1.15 DONCASTER SALES BREEDERS TROPHY** BBC1
(Novices handicap chase £14,395: 3m 2f) (14 runners)

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 1111-21 | STRONG CHAIRMAN 71 (F,G,S) (Hunt & Co Ltd) P Nicholls 7-11-12 | T J Murphy | 130 |
| 2 | /2/12-2 | NIRVANA PRINCE 16 (F,S) (D Portman) B Preece 9-11-3 | J Mogford (7) | 118 |
| 3 | 42-121F | COOLE HILL 23 (G,S) (E Winfield & J Potter) D Nicholson 7-10-13 | Mr D McPhail (7) | 133 |
| 4 | F0-1331 | KENDAL CAVALIER 37 (G,S) (M Wingfield Digby) B Millman 8-10-12 | D Salter (5) | 140 |
| 5 | 066-211 | PENNYMOOR PRINCE 17 (S) (N Lake) R Frost 9-10-11 | J Frost | 140 |
| 6 | 022-1P6 | MYSTIC ISLE 17 (S) (Mrs J Newton) N Gaselee 9-10-9 | W Marston | 122 |
| 7 | 3125-21 | MOUNTAIN PATH 17 (S) (A Speelman) N Henderson 8-10-8 | J R Kavanagh | 129 |
| 8 | 33-1121 | COMMITTED SCHEDULE 39 (D,F,G,S) (Schedule Pbrs) G Richards 7-10-2 | A Dobbin | 140 |
| 9 | /562526 | LANDED GENTRY 23 (S) (F Bell & Son Ltd) J G Shea 9-10-1 | DOUBTFUL | 112 |
| 10 | 065F-11 | CAREYSVILLE 16 (D,S) (G Johnson) Miss V Williams 7-10-1 | J A McCarthy | [145] |
| 11 | 1/2246- | PARAHANDY 332 (S) (G Heard) J Mullins 8-10-0 | B Powell | – |
| 12 | 011/P23 | GREVILLE AGAIN 26 (BF,D,S) (Mrs H Clarke) D Nicholson 9-10-0 | R Johnson | 130 |
| 13 | 1/0P-12 | ACT IN TIME 17 (S) (Mrs G McFerran) T George 6-10-0 | S Wynne | 138 |
| 14 | PU6-442 | HIGH HANDED 9 (T Caldwell) T Caldwell 7-10-0 | J Culloty | 116 |

Long handicap: Greville Again 9-13, Act In Time 9-8, High Handed 8-10
BETTING: 3-1 Careysville, 9-2 Mountain Path, 7-1 Kendal Cavalier, Strong Chairman, 8-1 Committed Schedule, Greville Again, 10-1 Pennymoor Prince, 14-1 Nirvana Prince, Coole Hill, 16-1 others.
1997: GENERAL PONGO 8-10-0 R Farrant (8-1) T George 13 ran

FORM FOCUS Strong Chairman beat Yahmi 13l in 3-runner novice chase at Newbury (3m good to soft); previously 1l 2nd of 6 to Yahmi in novice chase at Cheltenham (3m 1f, good) with Kendal Cavalier (19lb better off) 19l 3rd. Nirvana Prince 1½l 2nd of 15 to Jack Doyle in novice chase at Ludlow (2m 4f, good to soft). Coole Hill fell in handicap chase at Wincanton (3m 1f 110yd, good to soft); previously beat Church Law 8l in 5-runner handicap chase at Stratford (3m soft). Kendal Cavalier beat Simpson 11l in 10-runner handicap chase at Cheltenham (4m 1f, good to soft), previously 15l 3rd of 9 to Jolver in novice chase at Fontwell (3m 2f 110yd, good to soft) with Mystic Isle (3lb better off) pulled up. Pennymoor Prince beat Staunch Friend 2l in 11-runner novice chase at Windsor (3m 5f, good to soft). Mountain Path beat Wishing William 5l in 14-runner novice handicap chase at Windsor (3m, good to soft), previously 2½l 2nd of 7 to Burnt Imp in novice chase at Bangor (2m 4f 110yd, good to soft) with High Handed (8lb better off) 4½l 4th. Committed Schedule beat Celtic Boy 2l in 9-runner handicap chase at Carlisle (3m 2f, soft). Careysville beat Fortunes Course 14l in 6-runner handicap chase at Ludlow (3m, good to soft). Parahandy 40l 6th of 23 to Flimsy Truth in amateur chase at Cheltenham (4m, good to firm). Greville Again 3¾l 3rd of 9 to Lets Rumble in novice chase at Plumpton (3m 1f 110yd, heavy). Act In Time 7l 2nd of 15 to Organ Recital in novice chase at Huntingdon (3m good to soft). High Handed 1¼l 2nd of 11 to Wisley Wonder in novice chase at Huntingdon (3m, good to soft)

CAREYSVILLE remains at the right end of the handicap and can complete a treble

**1.45 LADBROKE HANDICAP HURDLE** BBC1
(£10,943: 2m 6f 110yd) (13 runners)

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2F411-1 | LUCIA FORTE 17 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs L Farmer) K Bailey 7-11-10 | Mr R Wakley (3) | [148] |
| 2 | 1243310 | METASTASIO 28 (B,G,S) (F Mallon) D McArdle (Ire) 6-11-6 | H Rogers | – |
| 3 | 2F14-02 | HOLDIMCLOSE 63 (D,F,S) (Mrs C Lutey) R Frost 5-11-1 | J Frost | 143 |
| 4 | 5530-63 | DALLY BOY 21 (F,G) (T Bennett) T Easterby 6-10-13 | E Callaghan | 135 |
| 5 | F3/2111 | ROYALE ANGELA 26 (S) (J Newller) J Neville 6-10-12 | R Johnson | 138 |
| 6 | 141-220 | RIPARIUS 21 (F,G) (Mrs D Blackburn) P R Webber 7-10-12 | J A McCarthy | 132 |
| 7 | 1226-10 | NINE O THREE 43 (F,G,S) (Bideford Tool Ltd) P Hobbs 9-10-11 | R Guest | 138 |
| 8 | 3111-P5 | ELBURG 16 (C,G) (Mrs A Gamble) T George 8-10-11 | Mr K R O'Ryan (7) | 128 |
| 9 | /13-303 | WINN'S PRIDE 11 (CD,F,G,S) (Mrs W Bailey) R Hollinshead 7-10-7 | S Wynne | 129 |
| 10 | -212603 | CASTLE SECRET 14F (D,F,G,S) (Mrs P Burchell) D Burchell 12-10-6 | D J Burchell | 130 |
| 11 | 1-F4P20 | ROYAL PIPER 22 (C,D,F,S) (A Darlington) A J Wilson 11-10-6 | G Hogan (3) | 134 |
| 12 | /6F1-32 | DICTUM 17 (C,F,S) (Mrs R Humphries) Miss H Knight 7-10-4 | J Culloty | 145 |
| 13 | 311-250 | LOUGH TULLY 21 (D,S) (R Hancocks) F Jordan 6-10-3 | A Dobbin | 141 |

BETTING: 3-1 Lucia Forte, 6-1 Dictum, Metastasio, Royale Angela, 10-1 Dally Boy, Lough Tully, 12-1 Riparius, Winn's Pride, 14-1 Royal Piper, 16-1 others
1997: SUPREME LADY 6-11-0 J Culloty (5-1) Miss H Knight 11 ran

FORM FOCUS Lucia Forte beat Beaumont 9l in 10-runner handicap hurdle at Huntingdon (2m 5f 110yd, good to soft). Metastasio 16l 15th of 20 to Graphic Equaliser in handicap hurdle at Leopardstown (2m, good to soft). Holdimclose 6l 2nd of 8 to Sesame Seed in handicap hurdle at Chepstow (2m 4f 110yd, soft) with Lough Tully (4lb better off) 26l 5th. Dally Boy 4¾l 3rd of 14 to Hit The Canvas in handicap hurdle at Newcastle (3m, good to soft) with Lough Tully (3lb better off) 17l 7th. Royale Angela beat Cabochon 3l in 7-runner handicap hurdle at Plumpton (3m 4f, heavy). Riparius 20l 7th of 14 to Nipper Reed in handicap hurdle at Ascot (2m 110yd, soft). Nine O Three 39l 7th of 10 to Buckhouse Boy in handicap hurdle at Wincanton (2m 6f, good to soft). Elburg 15l 5th of 17 to Tilty in handicap hurdle at Ludlow (3m 2f 110yd, good to soft). Winn's Pride 10l 3rd of 7 to Beechfield Flyer in handicap hurdle at Leicester (2m 4f 110yd, soft). Castle Secret 9l 3rd of 12 to Native Field in claiming hurdle at Towcester (3m 5f, soft). Royal Piper 32l 7th of 15 to Tompetoo in handicap hurdle at Kempton (3m 110yd, soft). Dictum 1¼l 2nd of 18 to Green Crusader in handicap hurdle at Windsor (3m 4f, good to soft)

LUCIA FORTE is taken to go well despite a big weight

**2.20 SINGER & FRIEDLANDER NATIONAL TRIAL** BBC1
(Handicap chase. £32,147: 3m 4f) (11 runners)

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | P2P0-33 | NAHTHEN LAD 14 (G,S) (J Shaw) Mrs J Pitman 9-11-10 | D Leahy | 154 |
| 2 | 1454-32 | CALL IT A DAY 26 (C,G,S) (Mrs J Carrel) D Nicholson 8-11-8 | R Johnson | 155 |
| 3 | 1253-11 | MCGREGOR THE THIRD 37 (C,F,G,S) (The D W Bacon) G Richards 12-11-4 | B Harding | 147 |
| 4 | 31-1111 | HIM OF PRAISE 28 (D,G,S) (M St Quinton) O Sherwood 8-10-11 | J A McCarthy | 160 |
| 5 | /113/P0 | GREENHIL TARE AWAY 42 (F,G,S) (Mrs P Pamer) P Hobbs 10-10-10 | S McNeill | 122 |
| 6 | 4F04-12 | KAMIKAZE 56 (BF,G,S) (Mark E Greenhalgh) K Bailey 8-10-3 | Mr R Wakley (3) | 155 |
| 7 | 16/12-6 | IDIOT'S LADY 15 (C,G,S) (Mrs J Dunsmuir) Mrs J Pitman 9-10-9 | J Culloty | 145 |
| 8 | 013-66F | JET RULES 27 (B,G,S) (Sir Stanley Clarke) Mrs J Pitman 8-10-7 | J R Kavanagh | 130 |
| 9 | 410-643 | TURNING TRIX 37 (G,S) (M Danes) D Nicholson 11-10-8 | Mr D McPhail (7) | 154 |
| 10 | 412/123 | OTTOWA 43 (G,S) (P Batten) P Nicholls 8-10-6 | T J Murphy | [165] |
| 11 | 4/21-12 | MARTELL BOY 21 (G,S) (J Jones) Miss V Williams 11-10-0 | A Dobbin | 150 |

Long handicap: Martell Boy 9-13
BETTING: 5-2 Him Of Praise, 9-2 Call It A Day, 5-1 Nahthen Lad, 7-1 Ottowa, 8-1 Martell Boy, 10-1 Kamikaze, McGregor The Third, 14-1 others
1997: LORD GYLLENE 9-11-9 R Johnson (11-8 fav) S Brookshaw 9 ran.

FORM FOCUS Nahthen Lad 4l 3rd of 9 to General Wolfe in handicap chase grade II at Haydock (3m, soft). McGregor The Third beat Stoney Sauce beaten a distance in 6-runner chase at Cheltenham (3m 1f, good to soft); previously beat Dream Ride ¾l in 6-runner handicap chase at Stratford (3m, good). Him Of Praise beat Call It A Day (6lb better off) 1½l in 14-runner handicap chase at Sandown (3m 5f 110yd, good to soft). Greenhil Tare Away 55l 7th of 14 to Earth Summit in handicap chase grade I at Chepstow (3m 5f 110yd heavy). Kamikaze 6l 2nd of 5 to Sail By The Stars in handicap chase at Lingfield (3m, soft). Idiot's Lady 37l 6th of 10 to Tompetoo in handicap hurdle at Ascot (3m, soft). Turning Trix 15l 3rd of 10 to Kendal Cavalier in handicap chase at Cheltenham (4m 1f, good to soft); previously 29l 4th of 8 to Him Of Praise (14lb worse off) in handicap chase at Haydock (4m 110yd good to soft). Ottowa 12l 3rd of 6 to Fiddling The Facts in novice chase grade I at Kempton (3m, soft). Martell Boy a distance 2nd of 16 to A N C Express in handicap chase at Warwick (3m 5f, heavy) with Jet Rules (1lb better off) fell.

NAHTHEN LAD, a dour stayer, will be thoroughly at home over this trip

**COURSE SPECIALISTS**

| TRAINERS | Wins | Runs | % | JOCKEYS | Winners | Rides | % |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| M Pipe | 37 | 122 | 30.3 | J Culloty | 10 | 33 | 30.3 |
| M Tompkins | 5 | 17 | 29.4 | J Bradley | 7 | 29 | 24.1 |
| O Sherwood | 15 | 54 | 27.8 | J A McCarthy | 6 | 29 | 20.7 |
| N Henderson | 8 | 31 | 25.8 | J R Kavanagh | 7 | 45 | 15.6 |
| G Richards | 6 | 24 | 25.0 | D J Burchell | 3 | 21 | 14.3 |
| Miss H Knight | 17 | 69 | 24.6 | T J Murphy | 3 | 21 | 14.3 |
| D Nicholson | 20 | 84 | 23.8 | G Hogan | 3 | 23 | 13.0 |

**2.50 STANLEY RACING NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE**
(£5,591: 2m 5f) (10 runners)

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2135214 | GLAMANGLITZ 72 (CD,F,G) (Mrs J Martin) P Dalton 8-11-10 | R Johnson | 134 |
| 2 | 121/2-1 | CALLING WILD 19 (G,S) (Hunt & Co Ltd) P Nicholls 8-11-7 | T J Murphy | [148] |
| 3 | 2P/4F11 | CAPENWRAY 12 (D,F,G,S) (B Peppiatt) J King 9-11-6 | J Culloty | 140 |
| 4 | 0P0/F62 | STAUNCH FRIEND 17 (G,S) (Mrs M Tompkins) M Tompkins 10-11-5 | A Dobbin | 133 |
| 5 | 33F-320 | HAWKFIELD 16 (BF,S) (Historists) P Hobbs 9-11-5 | Mr R Widger (7) | 140 |
| 6 | 866/UP5 | MANDALAY 17 (Auld Alliance) J Old 9-10-12 | G Hogan (3) | 122 |
| 7 | P-10240 | ROSSELL ISLAND 61 (BF,G) (R Hachliss) Mrs J Pitman 7-10-6 | D Leahy | 143 |
| 8 | /40-453 | SPEEDWELL PRINCE 61 (F) (Bar Fortunes Praters) N Twiston-Davies 8-10-6 | W Marston | 144 |
| 9 | 1145230 | LORD NITROGEN 17 (F,G) (B Llewellyn) B Llewellyn 8-10-2 | B Powell | 133 |
| 10 | 040/065 | VASILIEV 42 (F,S) (R Forman) S Gollings 10-10-0 | Mr O McPhail (7) | 120 |

Long handicap: Vasiliev 9-2
BETTING: 9-4 Calling Wild, 9-2 Staunch Friend, 11-2 Capenwray, 7-1 Glamanglitz, 8-1 Hawkfield, 10-1 Rossell Island, 12-1 Speedwell Prince, 14-1 others
1997: NOYAN 7-11-3 R Thornton (2-1 jt-fav) R Fabey 6 ran

**3.25 JENKINSONS NOVICES HURDLE** (£3,989: 3m 110yd) (14 runners)

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | -03215P | BULLENS BAY 16 (D,F,G,S) (J Milton) B Llewellyn 9-11-8 | B Powell | 120 |
| 2 | 1220-13 | DOM BELTRANO 78 (BF,D,S) (C Wright) N Twiston-Davies 6-11-3 | W Marston | 120 |
| 3 | 0/33R-1 | STRONG TEL 73 (S) (T Neill) M Pipe 8-11-3 | J Lower | [136] |
| 4 | 221/P/P | BENUAD 16 (D,G) (J R W Hole) D Burchell 12-10-12 | D J Burchell | – |
| 5 | 653/2-0 | GUNNER SID 8 (Mrs M Pocel) B Preece 7-10-12 | J Mogford (7) | – |
| 6 | | MAKHPIYA PATAHN (Geoff Skellen) J Mullins 6-10-12 | R Guest | – |
| 7 | /000/F3 | MR FRANGIPANI 39 (Ashleybank Investments Ltd) G Richards 7-10-12 | A Dobbin | 95 |
| 8 | 0056/P0 | PERPIN LARK 17 (H Bibbey) R Brotherton 8-10-12 | S Curran | – |
| 9 | 032P/ | POLLY LIMRIGAR 858 (Mr & Mrs J Poyston) I Williams 7-10-12 | R Johnson | – |
| 10 | F3P-50 | SILLY PET 14 (C Pogson) C Pogson 8-10-12 | N Bentley | 80 |
| 11 | 4-30 | SWEET LORD 14 (I S Networking Solutions Ltd) M Bradstock 7-10-12 | G Bradley | 110 |
| 12 | U-000 | TIRLEY GALE 21 (D Smith) J Smith 6-10-12 | Mr O McPhail (7) | 96 |
| 13 | PRP- | WOLDSMAN 274 (R Slater) N Twiston-Davies 8-10-12 | T J Murphy | – |
| 14 | /0-0243 | KENTFORD TINA 16 (G) (D Bare) J Mullins 7-10-7 | A Bates (5) | 118 |

BETTING: 6-4 Strong Tel, 9-2 Dom Beltrano, 5-1 Sweet Lord, 6-1 Kentford Tina, 10-1 Mr Frangipani, 14-1 Polly Limrigar, 20-1 Bullens Bay, 25-1 others
1997: MENTMORE TOWERS 5-10-12 R Farrant (9-4 fav) Mrs J Pitman 14 ran

**3.55 E B F TATTERSALLS IRELAND MARES ONLY NOVICES CHASE**
(£3,501: 2m 4f) (13 runners)

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | F30-PF4 | BLAST FREEZE 7 (G,S) (Princes Heat-Treatment) N Henderson 9-11-8 | J R Kavanagh | 99 |
| 2 | PP0-2UF | CAMILLAS LEGACY 54 (H Cole) H Cole 7-11-0 | T J Murphy | [108] |
| 3 | 5P6P6-U | CARLINGFORD GALE 16 (F) (Mrs A Gamble) T George 7-11-0 | R Johnson | – |
| 4 | 41-F4U | CHURCHTOWN CHANCE 19 (G) (Avalon Racing) C Popham 8-11-0 | Mr O McPhail (7) | 90 |
| 5 | 00-PPP | OVERRUNNING 23 (R Matthews) A H Harvey 6-11-0 | J A McCarthy | – |
| 6 | 42-32P2 | PEARL'S CHOICE 15 (BF) (Choice Sd Pbrs) J McConnochie 10-11-0 | S McNeill | 107 |
| 7 | 4/421-0 | PLAYING THE FOOL 86 (F) (C Bennett) C Bennett 8-11-0 | Mr P Hanly | – |
| 8 | 5/000-F | SCOBIE GIRL 19 (I McGrady) J Mullins 8-11-0 | A Bates (5) | – |
| 9 | 1F-2P42 | SEYMOURSWIFT 17 (G,S) (Starlight Racing) D Eddolls 8-11-0 | G Bradley | 108 |
| 10 | 0-40 | SHARLEY COP 43 (Mrs E Yen) Miss J A Camacho 6-11-0 | E Callaghan | – |
| 11 | F-P003F | SISSINGHURST FLYER 16 (E Oxford) R Dickin 6-11-0 | S Wynne | 77 |
| 12 | 6P | VALLIS VALE 21 (S Andrews) J King 8-11-0 | J Culloty | – |
| 13 | /F-532P | WREN WARBLER 16 (S) (Mrs P Robeson) Mrs P Robeson 8-11-0 | M Richards | 106 |

BETTING: 9-4 Seymourswift, 7-2 Blast Freeze, Wren Warbler, 7-1 Pearl's Choice, 10-1 Camillas Legacy, 14-1 Sharley Cop, Sissinghurst Flyer, 20-1 others.
1997: HARVEST VIEW 7-11-0 M Berry (8-1) C Brooks 11 ran

**4.30 GUINNESS NOVICES HURDLE** (£3,778: 2m) (16 runners)

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 15 | PEKAY 40 (BF,D,S) (Nicras, Nelson & Newman) M Pipe 5-11-12 | G Supple (5) | 122 |
| 2 | 1 | STAGE PASS 47 (D,G) (J Bradbury) G Barnett 5-11-12 | T J Murphy | 115 |
| 3 | 5-0004 | ANDY CLYDE 7 (Sandybrow Stables Ltd) A Bailey 5-11-5 | Cary Lyons | 80 |
| 4 | 21-02 | BIG PERKS 87 (D,F) (R Perkins) P Dalton 6-11-5 | Mr R Wakley (3) | 86 |
| 5 | 53 | FAMILY MAN 17 (Family Man Partnership) J Fanshawe 5-11-5 | A Dobbin | 88 |
| 6 | 0/T-4PP | KALADROSS 14 (R Hewell) W Jenks 7-11-5 | G Hogan (3) | – |
| 7 | FPP0360 | KNOCK STAR 9 (J Marks) T Sail 7-11-5 | J R Kavanagh | 80 |
| 8 | 02 | MACHALINI 16 (Mrs A Gamble) T George 5-11-5 | S Wynne | 83 |
| 9 | 0 | MR SPECULATOR 14F (Harts Kilmorth Racing) J Spearing 5-11-5 | D J Kavanagh (5) | – |
| 10 | | NKHAKS NEPHEW 631F (J Blackshaw) C Egerton 6-11-5 | J A McCarthy | – |
| 11 | 0 | PUSHKA FAIR 16 (Manor Farm Stud (Rutland)) T Watson 7-11-5 | W Marston | – |
| 12 | 4122 | REAL ESTATE 42 (BF,D,S) (Mrs J Mould) D Nicholson 4-11-2 | R Johnson | [130] |
| 13 | 0R00-00 | NIRVANA PRINCESS 32 (D Portman) B Preece 6-11-0 | J Mogford (7) | 69 |
| 14 | 0 | TAKE THE CATCH 52 (D Stoddart) P R Webber 5-11-6 | R Guest | – |
| 15 | 0 | BRAVE ENVOY 49 (T Barge) M Heaton-Ellis 4-10-9 | B Powell | – |
| 16 | 04 | NORDIC CREST 7 (Silver Cod Partnership) P R Webber 4-10-9 | S McNeill | 100 |

BETTING: 11-4 Real Estate, 4-1 Family Man, 5-1 Pekay, 13-2 Stage Pass, 7-1 Machalini, 8-1 Big Perks, 12-1 Nkhaks Nephew, 20-1 others
1997: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Lingfield Park: 2.10 Emellen, 2.40 Frankie Ferrari. 3.15 Dover Soul. Sandown Park: 4.40 Colour Code. Wolverhampton: 9.00 Golden Saddle

**RACING NEXT WEEK**

MONDAY: Fontwell Park (first race, 1.50), Newcastle (2.10), Southwell (AW, 2.00).
TUESDAY: Carlisle (1.40), Warwick (1.50), Lingfield Park (AW, 2.00).
WEDNESDAY: Ascot (BBC, 1.30), Ludlow (1.40), Wolverhampton (AW, 1.50).
THURSDAY: Huntingdon (1.50), Wincanton (1.40), Lingfield (AW, 2.00).
FRIDAY: Bangor (2.00), Newbury (1.50), Southwell (2.10)
SATURDAY: Ayr (1.50), Catterick (1.35), Market Rasen (C4, 1.30), Newbury (BBC, 1.15), Lingfield Park (AW, 2.15)

*Flat meetings in bold*

RAPID RACELINE
0930 168+ COMMENTARY RESULTS
SANDOWN 101 201
UTTOXETER 102 202
WETHERBY 103 203
LINGFIELD 104 204
W'HAMPTON 105 205
IRISH 161 261
FULL RESULTS SERVICE 168

REALISE YOUR DREAM OF OWNING A RACEHORSE

The Official British Horseracing Board 2 day seminar "The Thrill of Racehorse Ownership" - is essential if you wish to become a successful owner. You get an impartial, informed view of racehorse ownership. Become an owner within a year, and the fee is refunded.

Reply now: very limited numbers.

RING 01753 897211
FOR A FREE COLOUR BROCHURE

NEXT SEMINAR 24 & 26 MARCH AT MIDDLEHAM
GO TO A LEADING TRAINER'S YARD
VISIT A STUD FARM
INCLUDES A FREE AFTERNOON AT DONCASTER RACES

RUGBY UNION

# Telfer sends out Scots in search of flying start

FROM MARK SOUSTER IN DUBLIN

JIM TELFER has been at pains to point out that the Five Nations Championship can be compared with a golf tournament. Either Scotland or Ireland could have a poor opening round today at Lansdowne Road, but pick up strokes over the next three. That, to Telfer, is the very essence of the championship.

The golfing analogy is all well and good, except that England, France and Wales lie in wait and the likelihood of making up lost ground appears remote for whichever side loses today.

Professionalism is in danger of creating a two-tier competition with the Irish and the Scots on the lower rung. At least, that is the theory. Whether it is borne out will be revealed over the next two months.

The Lloyds-TSB international, the 110th meeting between these two countries, is already being described as a wooden-spoon decider: although both may bristle at such suggestions, on recent form that is exactly what it is — and why so much hinges on the outcome.

A flying start and the sight of your name at the top of the leaderboard, however briefly, would do wonders for the confidence of either nation, for whom such a commodity has been in short supply.

Respective defeats by Italy in December and January have left both sides looking to their laurels. Brian Ashton lives on to resurrect Ireland's fortune; Richie Dixon does not.

In his place, albeit in a caretaker capacity, is Telfer, once again relishing hands-on involvement. Scotland lanced the boil after Italy and there is a feeling that a line has been drawn under the recent past.

Even with home advantage, Ireland could not be meeting Scotland at a worse time. "Certainly, the change around hasn't done us any favours," Ashton, the Ireland coach, whose relationship with Pat Whelan, the manager, has come under scrutiny recently, said.

Ashton was able to second-guess Telfer by correctly predicting to a man the Scotland team. However, whether he can make the most of that information this afternoon must be in doubt.

The shrewd Telfer, now back in his natural habitat, said: "I'm getting a real buzz off this again. The adrenalin is flowing and there is a whirlwind of anticipation. That's the great thing about sport, you never know what's going to happen. If I did, I'd be a prophet not a rugby coach."

Scotland certainly need a Messiah and if anyone can fulfil that role it is Telfer. If nothing else, his cussedness will instil passion, pride and even a little fear.

His supporting cast includes Ian McGeechan, Roy Laidlaw and David Leslie, illustrious names from the past. The latter pair were at his side at the press conference yesterday; they were also members of the Scotland team that won the triple crown in Dublin in 1984.

Scotland are indeed Ireland's bogey side, having not lost to the men in green since 1988, a sequence that includes a record 38-10 victory at Murrayfield last year.

The Scotland side boasts four British Lions, among them Gary Armstrong, the new captain in succession to Rob Wainwright. The switch of Gregor Townsend, to centre to accommodate Craig Chalmers, may not please the Northampton man, but it does give the side a better balance and Ireland would do well to close down the Scots as quickly as they can.

Ashton believes that two wins out of four would be regarded as a successful season for Ireland. "We are getting closer to what we want to do," he said. "Now is the time to show what we're capable of. We must lose our inhibitions, a barrier caused by regular defeats."

Two years ago, Scotland won in Dublin to kick-start a season that ended with them contesting a grand slam. Much has happened in the interim, of course, and a repeat of such heady days is unlikely. However, sport is still made of dreams . . .

**TODAY'S TEAMS AT LANSDOWNE ROAD**

| IRELAND | | SCOTLAND |
|---|---|---|
| C M P O'Shea (London Irish) | 15 | R J S Shepherd (Melrose) |
| R M Wallace (Saracens) | 14 | C A Joiner (Leicester) |
| K M Maggs (Bristol) | 13 | A V Tait (Newcastle) |
| M C McCall (London Irish) | 12 | G P J Townsend (Northampton) |
| D A Hickie (St Mary's) | 11 | K M Logan (Wasps) |
| D G Humphreys (London Irish) | 10 | C M Chalmers (Melrose) |
| B T O'Meara (Cork Con) | 9 | G Armstrong (Newcastle, capt) |
| R Corrigan (Greystones) | 1 | G Graham (Newcastle) |
| K G M Wood (Harlequins, capt) | 2 | G C Bulloch (West of Scotland) |
| P S Wallace (Saracens) | 3 | M J S Stewart (Northampton) |
| M E O'Kelly (London Irish) | 4 | D F Cronin (Wasps) |
| P S Johns (Saracens) | 5 | G W Weir (Newcastle) |
| D S Corkery (Bristol) | 6 | R I Wainwright (Dundee HSFP) |
| K Dawson (London Irish) | 7 | S D Holmes (London Scottish) |
| E R P Miller (Leicester) | 8 | P Walton (Newcastle) |

REPLACEMENTS: 16 S McDowell (Ballymena), 17 E P Elwood (Galwegians), 18 S C McIvor (Garryowen), 19 G M Fulcher (London Irish), 20 V C P Costello (St Mary's College), 21 N J Popplewell (Newcastle), 22 R Nesdale (Newcastle).

REPLACEMENTS: 16 A G Stanger (Hawick), 17 D Lee (London Scottish), 18 A D Nicol (Bath), 19 A J Roxburgh (Kelso), 20 S B Grimes (Watsonians), 21 D I W Hilton (Bath), 22 G Scott (Dundee HSFP).

Referee: A Watson (South Africa). Television: BBC1 from 2.30pm.



England train before the game with France today — but should this be their last Five Nations match in Paris? Photograph: Marc Aspland

# Tournament awaiting its last orders

Abolishing the venerable Five Nations Championship sounds like heresy. **Nicolas Andrews** is ready to be burnt at the stake

As England's sweet chariots sweep into the Stade de France and the wilting flowers of Scotland drop in on Dublin, the time has come to face a sad and uncomfortable truth.

For more than a century, it has been one hell of a party. But, thanks very much, all good things and all that. It's time to turn up the lights, clear up the left-overs and wait for the hangovers.

The Five Nations Championship, you see, no longer cuts the mustard in a global, professional game. That linchpin of the traditional sporting calendar, which has transported generations of sport-lovers from winter into spring, has no place in the modern world of international rugby union.

I know, I know. You could sell out the grounds five times over, such is the demand for tickets. The players want to play, the satellite broadcasters want to pay. But the tournament belongs to a world of amateur ideals, of taking part, where the friends made last forever and what actually takes place on the pitch is soon forgotten.

> 'It belongs to a world of amateur ideals'

After all, England and France, Scotland and Ireland should settle the first and last two places in the table this season on the first weekend. The competition is not what it might once have been.

Despite the administrative shambles, rugby union has changed dramatically. It is a big-money operation in which ancient rivalries and misty-eyed memories give way to hard-nosed realism. England's games are no longer beamed live into every sitting-room; Scotland play England and Wales meet France on Sundays.

England (and, for that matter, France) hold a genuine aspiration to win the World Cup next year but, just three months ago, the arrival of Australia, South Africa and New Zealand was awaited with considerable, and justified, trepidation.

Then, the cry went up that there was too much international rugby; the currency was being devalued by over-exposure. That the casualties must be the games against the lightweights of Scotland and Ireland is a selfish and English argument. It has nothing to do with the club v country wrangle, everything to do with the need to measure ourselves, regularly and when refreshed, against the best in the world.

It is the argument that did for football's home nations' championship. It hurt at the time, but who mourns the passing of the Rous Cup?

And, if Brian Ashton's brave band were to fluke a narrow victory at Twickenham on April 4, would it really affect England and Ireland's relative standings in the global order?

In two years' time, Italy are scheduled to make it six nations, and they will more than hold their own. Canada, the United States and Japan need encouragement, Romania can rise again, the game is developing in Germany, Holland and Spain.

So, why not ditch the Five Nations and hold a northern-hemisphere competition instead, in 2001 and 2005, two years distant from the World Cups of 1999 and 2003? Then, in the intervening years, hold a meaningful invitational tournament mixing, say, two northern and two southern-hemisphere powers.

> 'It is time to develop a global perspective'

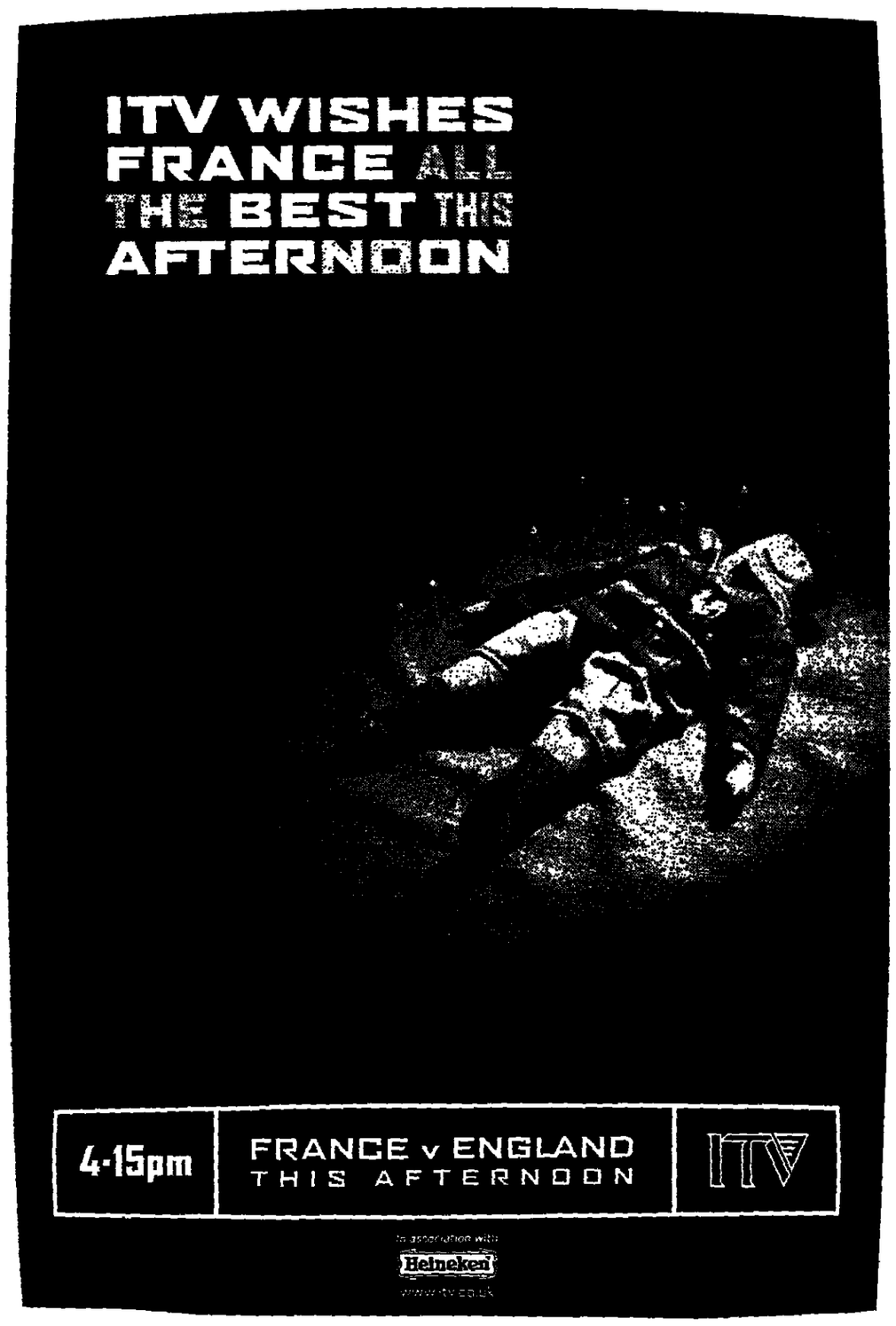
This way, British players — and spectators — will be exposed to more new opponents and differing styles. They will be better prepared for the global competition.

After all, most of those wearing white, red, green and dark blue over the coming weeks are team-mates or regular opponents in the Allied Dunbar Premiership. There are five Newcastle men in the Scotland side.

Just as the domestic game needs a radical, and painful, overhaul, so has the time come to develop the global perspective and unclutter the international programme. England would still confront their ancient foes, but in World Cup groups or northern-hemisphere finals.

It will hurt, it will offend. But the world has moved on and, if lifting the Webb Ellis Trophy is to become anything other than a southern-hemisphere prerogative, England must ride along with it.

Then again, this afternoon, those of us who can't be down by the riverside, be it Liffey or Seine, will search out those satellite dishes and get the rounds in with enthusiasm undimmed. It's here again, nothing quite like it. Time to move on? Next year, maybe.




# Wales in the firing line

BY GERALD DAVIES

ITALY'S double-barrelled volley, first against Ireland, whom they defeated 37-22 in December, and then against Scotland two weeks ago, when they won 25-21, forces Wales to wonder what other ammunition the aspiring claimants to inclusion in the European championship have in store.

Those two results, which suggest a degree of consistency in Italy's play that hitherto has been absent, give legitimacy to the fact they will join in two years' time the tournament that historically has been the exclusive preserve of the other five nations. The stakes are raised.

Wales enter the game at Stradey Park, Llanelli, this evening after their loss against New Zealand at Wembley. Furthermore, they do so after losing Gwyn Jones, their captain, after a serious neck injury when he was proving to be an inpiring and mature presence.

The captaincy is taken by Robert Howley, the scrum half, whose first occasion this is as Wales's leader. Jones's position on the open side of the scrum is taken by Martyn Williams, who wins his fourth cap. Five other changes have been made from the side that played in November; the most significant, perhaps, is the return of Scott Quinnell at No 8. For a variety of reasons he has not played for his country since the end of the championship last season.

A player of immense ability, if somewhat laid-back, he lends considerable presence to the scrum. With Robert Appleyard making up the trio in the back row, this is going to be a testing area if the home team are to play the swift-passing style that they have promised.

The threequarters contain mature players of undoubted class but Arwel Thomas, returning to the fly half position, has something to prove. Neil Jenkins, after wearing the No 10 jersey against the All Blacks, continues where he left off for the British Isles in the summer and for Wales during the whole of last season. He is at full back, where he must hope that the ill-luck that pursued him so doggedly last year has gone for good.

Diego Dominguez is a key player for the visitors at fly half. Having tasted international rugby with Argentina in 1986 he has, since making his debut for Italy in 1989, scored 582 points in international rugby. With only eight caps between the centres, Stoica and Martin, both the wings, Vaccari and Cuttitta, are veteran campaigners. Cuttitta has played in all three World Cups.

Wales have not lost to Italy. But, apart from the first occasion in 1992, when Wales won 43-12, the other three matches have been far from runaway victories. Tonight they should maintain their record.

**TEAMS**

WALES: N Jenkins (Pontypridd); I Evans (Bath), A Bateman (Richmond), S Gibbs (Swansea), G Thomas (Cardiff); A Thomas (Swansea), R Howley (Cardiff, captain); A Lewis (Cardiff), B Williams (Richmond), D Young (Cardiff), G Llewellyn (Harlequins), M Voyle (Llanelli), R Appleyard (Swansea), M Williams (Pontypridd), S Quinnell (Richmond).

ITALY: C Pilat; P Vaccari, C Stoica, L Martin, Marcello Cuttitta; D Dominguez, A Troncon; Massimo Cuttitta, C Orlandi, A Castellani, G Croci, W Cristofoletto, M Giovanelli (captain), A Sgorlon, J Gardner.

Referee: S Lander (England).

# O'Gara puts Scotland to the sword

RONAN O'GARA, the Ireland Under-21 fly half, was in splendid form as he helped to maintain his side's unbeaten record against Scotland. The Cork Constitution player kicked five penalties and a dropped goal in a 23-7 victory as the Irish made it six wins out of six against their rivals at Clontarf.

Scotland went in front after ten minutes when Stuart Moffat, the full back, joined the line and went over for a well-worked try, converted by the fly half, Gordon Ross, and they maintained their lead until a minute before half-time, when Ireland struck.

Jamie Mayer, the Watsonians centre, was penalised for a deliberate knock-on and the Garryowen scrum half, Thomas Tierney, cut through for a snap try after a quickly taken tap penalty.

Ireland, magnificently led by Rio Cullen, from No 8, established a stranglehold in the second half and, as the visitors failed increasingly to cope with a swirling wind, O'Gara stretched their lead with a succession of penalties.

South African rugby provinces were today threatened with "race quotas" unless they include more black players in the teams. Mluleki George, president of the National Sports Council (NSC), which governs sport in the country, has given a warning that he may even resort to calling for international rugby boycotts unless provincial teams change their racial make-up.

George raised his concern about the racial composition of the teams when only four blacks were among the 120 South African players named last week to contest the Super 12 tournament.

He said that, should there be no change in the racial make-up of provincial rugby teams this season, the NSC would be "forced to take drastic steps, and that means calling for a stop to any international teams coming to South Africa to play rugby".

The South African Rugby Football Union has labelled George's statement as "irresponsible and alarming", while right-wing politicos have said that quotas would destroy the country's world-class status in the game.

**RUGBY UNION STATISTICS**

THE TIMES WORLD RUGBY UNION TABLE

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | % |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 New Zealand | 22 | 20 | 1 | 1 | 912 | 391 | 93.18 |
| 2 Australia | 23 | 14 | 1 | 8 | 642 | 480 | 63.04 |
| 3 South Africa | 26 | 16 | 0 | 10 | 887 | 555 | 61.54 |
| 4 France | 23 | 14 | 0 | 9 | 674 | 508 | 60.87 |
| 5 England | 17 | 9 | 2 | 6 | 419 | 321 | 58.82 |
| 6 Wales | 22 | 10 | 0 | 12 | 561 | 585 | 45.45 |
| 7 Italy | 13 | 5 | 1 | 7 | 371 | 432 | 42.31 |
| 8 Argentina | 17 | 6 | 1 | 10 | 414 | 567 | 38.24 |
| 9 Scotland | 15 | 6 | 0 | 10 | 281 | 467 | 33.33 |
| 10 Ireland | 15 | 4 | 0 | 11 | 263 | 490 | 26.67 |

(based on all full internationals played since January 1, 1996)

FIVE NATIONS RECORD (1883-1997)

| | P | W | D | L | GS | TC | CW | % |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 Wales | 368 | 194 | 23 | 151 | 8 | 17 | 22 | 56.84 |
| 2 England | 370 | 186 | 38 | 146 | 11 | 20 | 22 | 55.40 |
| 3 France | 271 | 128 | 17 | 126 | 5 | - | 11 | 50.37 |
| 4 Scotland | 371 | 164 | 22 | 185 | 3 | 10 | 13 | 47.17 |
| 5 Ireland | 370 | 141 | 24 | 205 | 1 | 5 | 10 | 41.35 |

GS = grand slam TC = triple crown CW = outright championships

FORM GUIDE (1993-97)

| | P | W | D | L | Tries F | Tries A | % |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 England | 20 | 15 | 0 | 5 | 35 | 16 | 75.00 |
| 2 France | 20 | 12 | 0 | 7 | 51 | 20 | 60.00 |
| 3 Scotland | 20 | 9 | 1 | 10 | 24 | 33 | 47.50 |
| 4 Ireland | 20 | 6 | 1 | 13 | 18 | 45 | 32.50 |
| 5 Wales | 20 | 6 | 0 | 14 | 28 | 38 | 30.00 |

**France v England**
(in Five Nations Championship)

| | P | F won | E won | Draw |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| In France | 34 | 17 | 15 | 2 |
| Overall | 68 | 26 | 35 | 7 |

LAST TEN MEETINGS

| Year | Winners (venue) | Score |
|---|---|---|
| 1988 | France (Paris) | 10-9 |
| 1989 | England (Twickenham) | 11-0 |
| 1990 | England (Paris) | 26-7 |
| 1991 | England (Twickenham) | 21-19 |
| 1992 | England (Paris) | 31-13 |
| 1993 | England (Twickenham) | 16-15 |
| 1994 | England (Paris) | 18-14 |
| 1995 | England (Twickenham) | 31-10 |
| 1996 | France (Paris) | 15-12 |
| 1997 | France (Twickenham) | 23-20 |

France are going for their third successive win against England in the Five Nations, a feat they have achieved twice before — in 1955 and 1977. In 1978 they made it four in a row, their best record in the series. England have twice won seven in a row between 1910 and 1921, with the First World War in between, and 1989-95.

England have won five of the last nine matches in Paris to France's four. During those years England also won a World Cup quarter-final, in Paris, in October 1991.

HEAD-TO-HEAD TODAY

| France | | England |
|---|---|---|
| 396 | Caps | 269 |
| 129/167 | Forwards/Backs | 117/152 |
| 54 | Tries | 37 |
| 36/18 | Backs/Forwards | 27/10 |
| 25.3 | Average age | 26.4 |
| 26/25 | Backs/forwards | 26/26.7 |
| 129st 5lb | Pack weights | 130st 11lb |

**Ireland v Scotland**
(in Five Nations Championship)

| | P | I won | S won | Draw |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| In Ireland | 50 | 24 | 22 | 4 |
| Overall | 102 | 44 | 53 | 5 |

LAST TEN MEETINGS

| Year | Winners (venue) | Score |
|---|---|---|
| 1988 | Ireland (Dublin) | 22-19 |
| 1989 | Scotland (Murrayfield) | 37-21 |
| 1990 | Scotland (Dublin) | 13-10 |
| 1991 | Scotland (Murrayfield) | 28-25 |
| 1992 | Scotland (Dublin) | 16-10 |
| 1993 | Scotland (Murrayfield) | 15-3 |
| 1994 | Draw (Dublin) | 6-6 |
| 1995 | Scotland (Murrayfield) | 26-13 |
| 1996 | Scotland (Dublin) | 16-10 |
| 1997 | Scotland (Murrayfield) | 38-10 |

Scotland have not lost in the last nine meetings between the countries. Scotland's best unbeaten run against Ireland goes back to the 1980-90s, when they went 11 matches without defeat.

HEAD-TO-HEAD TODAY

| Ireland | | Scotland |
|---|---|---|
| 167 | Caps | 230 |
| 89/88 | Backs/forwards | 198/143 |
| 17 | Tries | 47 |
| 8/9 | Backs/forwards | 33/14 |
| 25.1 | Age | 26.1 |
| 25.4/24.8 | Backs/forwards | 27.4/25.7 |
| 132st 9lb | Pack weight | 130st 11lb |

ITALY v FIVE-NATIONS SIDES
(since 1995 World Cup)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1995 | Lost | 22-34 | v France (A) |
| 1996 | Lost | 26-31 | v Wales (A) |
| | Lost | 22-31 | v Wales (H) |
| | Lost | 21-54 | v England (A) |
| | Lost | 22-29 | v Scotland (A) |
| 1997 | Won | 37-29 | v Ireland (A) |
| | Won | 40-32 | v France (A) |
| | Lost | 19-31 | v France (A) |
| | Won | 37-22 | v Ireland (A) |
| 1998 | Won | 25-22 | v Scotland (H) |

■ Compiled by Stephen McCormack

# Paris is the place for England to take another step forward

**LAWRENCE DALLAGLIO**



This England team will go into the Five Nations Championship in Paris today with confidence, but I do not think there is that much difference from the games we played before Christmas. The three southern-hemisphere countries are probably the best in the world and France are up there, too.

They are capable of beating anyone and the history of the Five Nations suggests that home form is an advantage. Therefore, anyone who puts us forward as favourites is probably dwelling too much on our dozen match with New Zealand in December.

The teams that have achieved in the past, and those doing well at the moment, are the ones that have a sense of togetherness; they have spent time in each other's company, fostered trust and belief. We started down that road during the four weeks we spent together in November and December and I, for one, couldn't wait to return to that fold.

Look at the 1991 team that served England so well. By and large, it had been together a number of years: the individuals knew each other not only as rugby players but as friends. That kind of relationship is only just developing in the present squad and, the further we go, the more it will help our performance.

Everyone wants to be part of something successful and we have a balance of experience and raw talent. Our future lies in the depth of the squad and the competitive environment that has been created — I believe we can achieve as much as we want to achieve.

We can look back at the four pre-Christmas games and see how the attitude changed from the first drawn match with Australia to the last drawn match with New Zealand. Consider that, at the start of that series, we had a new team, new captain and new management. There was a steady improvement and the second All Blacks game demonstrated the potential ready for release.

The game today should take that a step further. It is the best fixture we could have because we have no chance of being lulled into a false sense of security. We are away from home, against a France team wounded by their 52-10 defeat by South Africa.

Moreover, France offer a natural, uncoached flair among the backs and a succession of dynamic forwards. I'm particularly interested in their selection of what amounts to five No 8s in the pack; I admit that Olivier Magne is a genuine open-side flanker, and a very good one, but they have moved away from the days of Olivier Merle towards a very athletic pack.

Maybe our playing philosophies have moved closer together. The difference between this England team and some I have seen in the past is that more than two or three individuals are needed to run the game; sides have come to Paris with key individuals setting the tone — a Brian Moore, a Rob Andrew — and the rest have fitted in. I'm not saying that doesn't happen now, but each individual has the chance to say what they like without fear of castigation.

However, I hope we have not abandoned England's traditional virtues. We need to be flexible, to vary the play, and that means keeping it close as well as playing wide at times. Past England sides may have had too much of one and not enough of the other but I doubt if, in the transitional phase England are going through, there is that much danger of the balance tilting completely the other way.

We must find a way to contain the France half backs: Philippe Carbonneau will surely bounce back from the disappointment of Brive's defeat against Bath in the Heineken Cup final while Thomas Castaignède has been playing fly half regularly with Castres. He will find a way of unleashing his backs, which Brive could not.

For our own part, we must try to eradicate the errors from the draw with New Zealand. People have said that we only scored three points in the second half, but we created far more opportunities. We also helped the All Blacks to some of their points.

Above all, we must play for the full 80 minutes. We did not consciously sit back on our half-time lead against the All Blacks, but the emphasis did shift. That is something to be avoided.

I am not contemplating defeat today. That's not arrogance. I have a belief and a confidence in the squad around me. We have tended to talk in the long term, about our hopes for the World Cup in 1999, but along the way you have to have stepping-stones and a victory over France would do wonders for morale. If our attitude and performance matches up to our capability, then the outcome will be an England win.

RUGBY UNION

# Woodward pins his hopes on fluid game

FROM DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT, IN PARIS

TWO teams in search of a future begin the Five Nations Championship at the new Stade de France here today. Two teams seeking identity, seeking their place in the world order, yet with an ancient rivalry sustaining them amid the grandeur of the futuristic stadium that France teams now call home.

It is all of a piece with the general chaos that has attended rugby union's move into professionalism that the preparation for the 75th meeting between France and England this afternoon has proceeded amid debate, part climatic part political, over the venue.

But a hazy sun hung over Paris yesterday as the England squad enjoyed a brief warm-up at the stadium and the pitch, now thawed after four days of hectic activity, will be in excellent condition for the *jeu de vitesse* that both countries want to play.

It will be the fourth different arena in which they have met since England's eight-year grip on this fixture loosened in Pretoria in 1995. Defeat followed again at the Parc des Princes and, last year, at Twickenham in the match that deprived England of a grand slam and proved the important step towards France's fifth such honour. Yet the French are all too aware of how their title has dwindled into the distance after a summer and an autumn of discontent.

Defeated in Australia, dissatisfied with the Latin Cup, dissected by South Africa, the French management has taken a long, hard look at their resources and selected with the future in mind. They may even have crossed their fingers that their Brive contingent — which includes the scrum half, Philippe Carbonneau, and the goalkicker, Christophe Lamaison — beaten in a morale-sapping Heineken Cup final a week ago, will regroup effectively.

England's travails since the conclusion of the last Five Nations have scarcely been less: seven internationals have brought only one victory, against Argentina, yet there is a vitality to their work that springs directly from the intensive four weeks together in November and December. That period concluded with the 26-26 draw against New Zealand at Twickenham that has coloured all expectation since.

Moreover, the England management has fed the expectation of its followers, of whom 7,000 are in the French capital courtesy of a new agreement between the two countries that has led to an increased number of tickets becoming available for the two largest venues in the championship. Clive Woodward, the England coach, said he has the team that he wants, free from injury, and not the slightest excuse should France prevail.

"In my mind I have every scenario covered," he said, in the sort of phrase that tends to return to haunt sportsmen. But this only reflects the confidence with which Woodward invests his players, so that they will take the field prepared to play the fluid game he has in mind: seven of them have played international rugby here before, while the European club experience has given several others an idea of the cacophony of sound that will embrace them.

Woodward acknowledged that anything less than first place in the championship will be regarded as failure. "You get no prizes for coming second," he said.

The popular perception is that this game will be crucial to the destination of the championship trophy and there is distinct parity between the teams.

Califano and Tournaire, the Toulouse props, have proved their set-piece value time and again, while Johnson and Archer will hope to recover their best form against the new France lineout pairing of Brouzet and Pelous. But the battle royal will be fought in the middle five of back row and half backs.

"These games are won and lost on the little bits and pieces, the odd penalty, the odd missed tackle," Woodward said. "It's having a team that makes the right decisions when the pressure comes on and that comes with experience." Woodward is happy that a player such as Kyran Bracken at scrum half has been enjoying an outstanding season.

Nor could there be two such contrasting players at fly half as Paul Grayson and Thomas Castaignède, the one calm and self-contained, the other committed to constant attack.

Few will forget the half-hit dropped goal by Castaignède, then playing at centre, which won the 1996 match and the cheeky grin that followed it. Since then France have worked through Alain Penaud, Lamaison, David Aucagne and Thierry Lacroix in the pivotal position before awarding it to Castaignède — upon his playmaking the match could hang.

FIVE NATIONS CHAMPIONSHIP

| TODAY'S TEAMS | | |
|---|---|---|
| FRANCE | | ENGLAND |
| J-L Sadourny (Colomiers) | 15 | M J Catt (Bath) |
| P Bernat-Salles (Pau) | 14 | D L Rees (Sale) |
| C Lamaison (Brive) | 13 | W J H Greenwood (Leicester) |
| S Glas (Bourgoin) | 12 | J C Guscott (Bath) |
| C Dominici (Stade Français) | 11 | A S Healey (Leicester) |
| T Castaignède (Castres) | 10 | P J Grayson (Northampton) |
| P Carbonneau (Brive) | 9 | K P P Bracken (Saracens) |
| C Califano (Toulouse) | 1 | J Leonard (Harlequins) |
| R Ibañez (Dax, capt) | 2 | M P Regan (Bath) |
| F Tournaire (Toulouse) | 3 | D J Garforth (Leicester) |
| O Brouzet (Bègles-Bordeaux) | 4 | M O Johnson (Leicester) |
| F Pelous (Toulouse) | 5 | G S Archer (Newcastle) |
| P Benetton (Agen) | 6 | L B N Dallaglio (Wasps, capt) |
| O Magne (Brive) | 7 | N A Back (Leicester) |
| T Lièvremont (Perpignan) | 8 | R A Hill (Saracens) |

Referee: D T M McHugh (Ireland)

REPLACEMENTS: 16 X Garbajosa (Toulouse), 17 D Aucagne (Pau), 18 F Galthié (Colomiers), 19 M Lièvremont (Stade Français), 20 T Cleda (Pau), 21 C Soulette (Béziers), 22 M del Maso (Agen)

REPLACEMENTS: 16 M B Perry (Bath), 17 P R de Glanville (Bath), 18 A J Diprose (Saracens), 19 D J Sampson (Saracens), 20 G C Rowntree (Leicester), 21 D E West (Leicester), 22 P Vickery (Gloucester)

Live on Sky Sports 2, from 1pm. Highlights, ITV 4.15



Grayson has bloomed since discovering himself in the epic 26-26 draw against the All Blacks last December. Photograph: Hugh Routledge

# Pivot relishes new alignment

## Paul Grayson's belief in his ability as a running fly half will be tested to the full against France this afternoon

**DAVID HANDS**



There were hints, had we chosen to recall them, of Paul Grayson's capabilities. There was the neatness to his play, the occasional darting run, the pass behind the back which suggested that greater adventure than had been previously discerned lurked within the fly half from Northampton.

But not until December 6 last year was it generally acknowledged that Grayson might be the No 10 to make England's fluid and flexible approach succeed. Perhaps Grayson himself did not know it for certain until some 25 minutes into the game at Twickenham with New Zealand, when he realised that his sporting career was changing and for the better.

"I was doing an interview with Stuart Barnes for Sky," he reflected this week, "and we were talking afterwards about fly-half play. I said: 'I bet you knew what sort of player you were when you were 19' and he said that he did because he'd had ten years in the game. I've only had eight years but I've got to the point now where I know what it takes to be a total fly half."

Consider, for a moment, the anguished debate in the first half of this season about that rare commodity, the English fly half. There was Mike Catt, the precocious Alex King, Grayson and then who? When England came to face the All Blacks for the second time in 15 days, Catt was concussed, King's knee was suspect, there was only Grayson left. This week, when the XV to play France in Paris today was confirmed, Grayson's place was assured and it was Catt who counted himself fortunate to be restored — at full back.

Of course Grayson was pleased, but better still is the equanimity with which the 26-year-old Lancastrian has ridden the roller-coaster of the past two years. Not everyone who scores 81 points in their first five internationals is dropped, then returns to register a further 52 points in three games and earns a touring place with the British Isles, only to find injury throwing a spanner in the works.

Not that Grayson's composure was all it might have been on the morning of the game with New Zealand. "I looked in the mirror and asked myself if I wanted to be involved in the 1999 World Cup. Because if I didn't do what Clive [Woodward] was asking for, I could forget it," he said. What Woodward, the England coach, wanted was for Grayson to play in the traffic, adopt a flat position in relation to his scrum half in the face of the best team in the world and draw from a talented but inexperienced back division the quality for which Woodward had chosen them.

"That morning was the most nervous of any match I have had. It was unfamiliar territory, even though it was only by a yard, in the biggest game I had ever been involved in." But, finally, Grayson unleashed the game that his coach at Northampton, Ian McGeechan has been wheedling forth for the past three years and that he hoped would serve the Lions well in South Africa last summer.

It might have done, had not Grayson been recovering from a groin strain that re-emerged against Border and spelt the end of his tour after only one game. He returned home to convalesce and to become just another fan.

Grayson has been perceived frequently as an underdog, for all the sporting talent he has evinced from childhood — rugby, football and cricket have come easily to him. This will be his twelfth cap and only now does he believe that he is beginning to be accepted as an international pivot.

"I don't blame people for forming opinions on what they see, because in internationals they hadn't seen anything different. I'd always played a structured game for England. You could run around all day for the club but if people hadn't seen it, all they knew was that I'd kicked a few goals.

"The remarkable thing about that game with New Zealand was that my transformation was seen as happening on one day. And ever since, I've thought about the good things in that game, why I was effective and how I could use that in the way Northampton play. It's been good, the final piece in the jigsaw, in how to manage and control the game.

"I hope it will be a cumulative thing. There are all sorts of aspects to my game which I can improve but for now it's enough not to be seen just as a kicking fly half, or a running fly half, or a flat fly half, but just as a fly half."

For Grayson to take his new-found belief to Paris, where he made his Five Nations Championship debut two years ago, reflects a new phase in his career. To play well against France, against Thomas Castaignède, whose dropped goal denied England a draw that January day, will be one thing; to go into the game with such increased expectations upon his slim shoulders quite another.

But confidence is a quality that Grayson, whose wife Emma expects their first baby in June, has never lacked. "What is confidence?" he asked. "I would say I showed tremendous character to do what I did against New Zealand and from it I gained knowledge, which determines how I behave. Knowledge is confidence and I have unlocked a bit more of the mystery of being an international fly half."



# Counselling Kenny on dangers of failing relationship

DANNY BAKER



Like everyone else, I am worried about Kenny Dalglish. Many people are saying that the linesman in the Stevenage replay was merely doing the compassionate thing in giving a goal for a ball that was closer to the halfway line than the net because, plainly, unless Newcastle got a victory, Kenny was going to blow up or keel over.

This may be honourably humane, but the benefits of such thinking are strictly short-term. Kenny, never the most chipper chap, these days is emotionally bound up tighter than a female foot in pre-Mao China.

His marriage to Newcastle is clearly under much strain and kicking the Stevenage dog will do little to unburden the tension. His boring team are tenth. This week many supportive Geordie fans have been on TV admitting that, yes, things were exciting under Keggy Keegle, but Mr Dalglish has brought a real credibility to St James' Park and, well, Keggy never did actually win any silverware. At no point did any reporter say "but your boring team are tenth". Such cowering awe of Kenny and the Geordie fans can do no one any good, especially the manager.

I once had a schoolfriend who had such a fear of being asked to play in goal that his neck would swell up on games day. Eventually, the masters recognised his malady and, after a very close call in the changing-rooms, he was "excused tie" on Mondays. I think Kenny's notorious habit of speaking as if his lips were wired to 5lb of motion-sensitive explosive is a similar symptom of internalised sporting agony.

One way forward might be, instead of David Mellor and Tony Banks's ludicrous and embarrassing troubleshootin' Football Taskforce Roadshow, we set up the travelling soccer equivalent of the Oprah or Ricki Lake programmes where managers, chairmen, fans and referees can come together and admit on stage that they really do have a problem. Just saying the words "my name is Kenny Dalglish and my team are boring and tenth" would see the weight lift. He would be hugged and counselled. He would be told that, while it is not OK to be boring and tenth, it is a problem that many others have had and have eventually beaten.

As it is we are forced to glimpse his tortured mental state among unbalanced quotes about "bouncy balls", in wishes that Stevenage might fall into the sea and in the perpetration of the idea that, as a team, Newcastle are a major force. No good can come of this. That way lies the Nut House.

In the light of all this, it is becoming clear that Alan Sugar's suicidal appointment of Christian Gross at Tottenham was obviously a classic cry for help. In Spurs' case, it has come too late. Though reality can heal, the spoonful of medicine dished out at Barnsley on Wednesday night will not help Alan Sugar go down. There is much belly-aching, disgrace and bloodletting to be done in North London before the cockerel crows once more.

Thankfully, nobody likes Alan Sugar, whereas a Kenny Dalglish sat in a padded cell with his features frozen and cross-eyes bulging from their sockets would be a tragic end for a man who was, and remains, important to British football. So if we are to save the psychological state of this true Great of the game, we must start to apply tough love and that means, when Newcastle take on Tranmere in the next round, we mustn't pretend it is a goal whenever the ball is merely bouncing harmlessly about the Tranmere penalty spot. After all, what does it profit a man to gain the FA Cup if he loses his mind?

## Pronouncing on a matter of hard fact

A work-mate is coy-yoiked for saying he feels Juventus will probably win the European Cup.

It is not his opinion that gets the catcalls — though most civilised people will agree it will still be Manchester United's year — but the fact he says Juventus with a hard 'J'. "Do you also say A-Jax?", he is challenged, and indeed he does. So do I.

I find Yu-ventus and Aye-yax a terribly affected notion. Why is it that only these two clubs that ever seem to get the continental nod from commentators? Nobody says Munchen for Munich, Mehico for Mexico and whatever the locals in Belgrade call their premier side. I bet it sure as hell doesn't come out as Red Star.

And while we're about it, I give fair warning that anyone around me who pronounces Barcelona with a "th" in it can expect a fruity one straight in the cajones, capeesh?

☐ Danny Baker is on Talk Radio (1053-1089am) every Saturday from 5.30pm.



How Gazza might look in joining forces with his idol, Hutch, in the Seventies show

## Soul tops Gazza's chart

Last week I told you of a lunch with Paul Gascoigne that was interrupted by someone calling at the table to say hello. This person had such an effect on Paul that he drained of colour, wept, made emotional calls to relatives and assured the table that this meeting, as far as Britain's most famous footballer was concerned, was "exactly like standing face to face with Elvis".

After the person left, Gazza was silent and reflective for at least 20 minutes and only returned to form after I showed him the profiterole I had placed in the breast pocket of a colleague's blazer. So who was it? Who was the show-stopping walk-on? Stepping from behind the dessert trolley, it is none other than David Soul, much loved as Hutch in *Starsky and Hutch* and clearly an ever-present in the Gascoigne household '77-80.

Hoping to bolster my own position in the Gazza hero list, I steer the conversation around to Patrick Mower, whose home number I have, but plainly this is very small beer after The King has been in the theatre.

## A ceremonial dumping

A commercial on the BBC tries gamely to pretend there might even be one person interested in seeing the opening ceremony for the Winter Olympics. When you consider the almost total apathy toward the actual frozen events themselves, the idea of interest in a deathless curtain-raiser full of false cheer, joyless choreography and preposterous props boggles the mind.

Sporting bodies are suckers for entrepreneurs who somehow manage to make real the illusion that the masses do not consider themselves fully feasted unless their boxing matches are delayed an hour by the sluggers twitching behind a backlit sheet, rugby is only worthwhile if also providing a forum for the type of cheesecake cheerleading Pan's People might bridle at and that the two greatest global sporting events — proper Olympics and the World Cup — are not worth staging unless they previously pony up a massive hollow culture carnival identical to those that sent poor Prince Philip bald before his time.

Much as I find Sky's football coverage the bee's knees, nobody should ever forget that even it first foisted the game upon us complete with half-time performances by "pop stars" like Sonia and barely focused firework displays at the final whistle.

A friend of mine who lives near Southampton's ground swears he once had the Sky team down his street desperately knocking on doors to see if they might be allowed into residents' gardens with their rockets in milk bottles and "screeching owl" planes. At the time, Saints were scrambling for survival and the locals were united in believing any whizz-bangs drawing attention to this would be in rank bad taste.

In the end, perhaps the problem is that those in charge of marketing these days really do have great trouble conceiving that any one thing could be actually bigger than God Almighty TV itself. But sport is. Its maxim, "Those About To Die Salute You". Not "A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Theatre".

## When football food fails to cut the mustard

I am not particularly prone to the cunning industry of empiricism that swamps football these days. The over-romancing of the mundane is a sure sign of the arriviste supporter. However, a slim new volume called the *Colman's Mustard Football Food Guide* is just about as gripping a read as you'll find outside plots about fog-bound stately homes and guests being bumped off by rota.

It is made all the more impressive because my own views on food at venues — aside from those concerning the "nourishment as missile" argument — are indifferent to say the least. I've never thought either food or toilets are the least bit important to a venue. If you can't suspend bodily intake and output for a couple of hours, then frankly you're in no fit state to be out at public gatherings.

Why, at rock festivals back in the 1970s, we often went two or three days without seeing such niceties as a scotch egg or an Armitage Shanks fixed basin. You know, all sentiment aside, my team used to have a ramshackle spartan home ground whose starkness performed the necessary function of intimidating the bejesus out of the visiting teams and supporters.

Away teams might have won there on occasion, but never without the feeling they were about to be swallowed up. Until we were told it was a tottering, dangerous open sewer whose lack of a cocktail lounge, carvery and gentlemen's steam-room was the single greatest example of deprivation since Fagin's Den got blowed upon, nobody noticed much wrong with it. It was a football ground. It held football matches.

Strangely, at just about the same time as an offer for the land came in from a housing firm, it's scandalous shortcomings became so apparent that it was announced the entire place was on the verge of collapsing in on itself like the house in *Poltergeist*. Today we play in a £50 toilet-boasting vacuum, with easy access to dozens of outlets serving some of the humblest hamburgers and flat cola-style syrup in the world, lousy acoustics and a perfect view of a side that has not successfully cleared a corner since 1993. Oh, and for this privilege the club probably won't be solvent again until . . . no, actually that sentence ends with "again".

Anyway, we've drifted into class war as usual and I want to tell you to buy this book. It is a sober and unbiased account of outings to every English league ground with an eye to the culinary that never gets too cute or precious. I won't spoil your suspense by naming the best and worst here, but I do want to bring you what I feel is just about the saddest sentence written in recent years. It concerns Leyton Orient.

As part of the research team's analysis, each club has its menus perused, both inside and outside the ground. Except at Orient, where there is no outside menu. Apparently in the huddled, stocky streets around Brisbane Road, you will find no carts, no vans, no vendors.

When asked why this is, a police constable reflects: "There just isn't the call for it around here." In those words lies the melancholy that sits at the heart of the game beyond the Premiership. Brooding on generations of unborn burgers and omitted onions, I turn to T. S. Eliot:

"Footballs echo in the memory / Down the passage we did not take / Towards the door we never opened / Into the rose garden."

(Colman's Football Food Guide, *edited by Jim White, published by BDP, £4.95*)

The subject on the radio is "Footballers you have seen in reduced circumstances". Amid a flurry of calls about tramps, publicans and travelling salesmen, an anonymous fax arrives bearing just two words: David Ginola.

**FACT:** There is a Sunday side in Surrey called A3 Milan.

**PREDICTION:** The next manager of Arsenal will be Gordon Strachan. He will quickly make them into the first great side of the 21st century.

HOCKEY

## Teddington manage to turn corner

TEDDINGTON'S expertise at corners featured strongly in a 9-4 victory over Doncaster in pool A of the national indoor club championship at Crystal Palace yesterday (Sydney Friskin writes). Conway and Billson each converted two corners as Teddington swept to victory.

Doncaster were not disgraced. They led 2-1 and were level at 3-3 before Teddington scored four goals without reply. Edwards, with a hat-trick, and Wood were Doncaster's scorers, while Haydon (two), Conway, McGuire (penalty stroke) and Laslett completed the scoring.

Teddington have not won this tournament, although they reached the final in 1985, losing on penalty strokes to St Albans. Their main rivals, Old Loughtonians, took the title in 1995 and 1996 and were runners-up last year to St Albans.

In pool B, East Grinstead, scoring all their goals in the first half, swept to a 6-2 win over Hull.

CRICKET

## Giles scales the heights as spin pair take firm grip

FROM SIMON WILDE IN MATARA

ENGLAND A had the best day of their tour of Sri Lanka yesterday, producing a near-faultless performance in extreme heat to dismiss Sri Lanka A for 171. However, their effort was soured by news of another fatal bomb blast, in Colombo, and Graham Gooch, the tour manager, is to discuss the situation with the British High Commission today.

Gooch said last night: "At the moment we are staying, but we will obviously be talking to people about the situation."

Ashley Giles and Dean Cosker, the orthodox left-arm spin bowlers, took seven wickets between them on the first day of the second unofficial Test match to give England an excellent chance of going 1-0 up in the three-match series.

Giles and Cosker found the ball gripping effortlessly on the damp turf. Giles used his greater height to gain extra bounce, while Cosker pushed the ball through more than usual. "That was the best rhythm I have seen from Dean," Giles said. "We prefer working together."

Cosker was not expecting to play but Jonathan Powell, the young Essex off spinner due to make only his second first-class appearance, had to withdraw because of an infection in his spinning finger. As it was, Cosker had his longest bowl of the tour, sending down 26 overs and taking three for 46.

The ground staff forgot to take off the covers until 8am, two hours later than planned. As a result, the pitch was damp from its watering the previous day and the start was put back 45 minutes. England were grateful that they lost the toss and, by mid-afternoon, Russel Arnold, the Sri Lanka captain, was regretting his choice. Gunawardena moved briskly to a run-a-ball half-century and England were struggling until Giles removed him with a bat-pad catch on the stroke of lunch.

Knight was prompted to deploy Giles and Cosker together — he has been strangely reluctant to do so — and, shortly after the interval, they claimed four wickets in 13 overs, leaving Sri Lanka on the rack at 114 for six.

The ball turned less in the final session as the pitch dried and England will hope to take advantage today. Knight was leg-before to the third ball of the innings but James and Maddy saw them to the close.

SCOREBOARD FROM MATARA

SRI LANKA A: First Innings

| | |
|---|---|
| *R P Arnold c Nash b Hutchison | 15 |
| A Gunawardena c Knight b Giles | 51 |
| N Nawaz c and b Giles | 5 |
| D R M Jayawardene c Knight b Cosker | 8 |
| M C Mendis c and b Cosker | 56 |
| I de Seram c Maddy b Cosker | 5 |
| †P B Dassanayake c Knight b Giles | 2 |
| H Boteju c Ealham b Holloake | 10 |
| N Bandaritilleke not out | 10 |
| R Perera c Nash b Giles | 4 |
| A Juniad b Hutchison | 1 |
| Extras (lb 1, w 1, nb 2) | 4 |
| Total | 171 |

FALL OF WICKETS 1-43 2-70 3-87, 4-85, 5-97, 6-114, 7-155, 8-157 9-162

BOWLING Hutchison 7.3-3-25-2; Holloake 6-1-23-1 Brown 7-2-18-0; Giles 26-7-52-4 Cosker 26-11-46-3

ENGLAND A: First Innings

| | |
|---|---|
| S P James not out | 23 |
| *N V Knight low b Perera | 0 |
| D L Maddy not out | 22 |
| Extras (lb 1, w 1) | 2 |
| Total (1 wkt) | 47 |

M A Ealham, D J G Sales, B C Holloake, D R Brown, A F Giles, †D C Nash, D A Cosker and P M Hutchison to bat

FALL OF WICKET 1-1

BOWLING: Perera 3-0-16-1, Boteju 5-1-6-0, Bandaritilleke 5-1-9-0, Juniad 2-0-11-0 Arnold 1-0-4-0

Umpires: R N S Strasona and T H Wijewardena

GOLF

## Olazabal sets pace at halfway

A SECOND round of 67 took José Maria Olazábal into the halfway lead in the Greg Norman International in Sydney yesterday. Profiting from his early start, when the course was at its most benign, the Spaniard made few mistakes in a round that included five birdies.

Olazábal has a one-stroke lead over John Cook, of the United States, who returned a 66, and is two ahead of the Australian, Craig Jones, whose 67 gave him a two-round total of 136.

Rounds of 69 by Nick Price, of Zimbabwe, and Rick Gibson, of Canada, left them three behind the Ryder Cup player, who has a seven-stroke cushion over Norman. The Australian could do no better than 73.

Olazábal was not completely satisfied with his game. "I am not hitting my irons so well. I don't feel that comfortable over the ball," he said. He was seldom in trouble, however, and when he did find greenside bunkers, at the 4th and 16th, he saved par by deft use of his sand-wedge.

David Frost's second round of 66 moved him from seventh place to the head of the leaderboard in the South African Open, in Durban. Frost, who is on 134, is two strokes ahead of his fellow South African, Ernie Els, who slipped back with a round of 72 after opening with a 64.

Greg Chalmers, of Australia, is third despite running up a ten at a par-five hole after he had moved ahead of Els and was tied with Frost.

Davis Love III, the US PGA champion, made a flying start to the Buick International in San Diego. His opening round of 62, ten under par, included eight birdies and an eagle, but he had only a shot in hand on Fuzzy Zoeller, Bob Tway, Steve Jurgensen and Jeff Sanday.

All five players were in action on the North Course at Torrey Pines, which is more than 400 yards shorter than the South Course, where Mark O'Meara, the champion, began with a 71.

TENNIS

## Damm burst by Rusedski

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

GREG RUSEDSKI, the British No 1, marched into the semi-finals of the Croatian indoor tournament in Split yesterday with a straight-sets victory over Martin Damm, of the Czech Republic.

Rusedski, the top seed, won 6-1, 6-4 in 55 minutes, dropping only seven points in nine service games, five of which were double faults. He served 15 aces, making a total of 50 in his three matches this week, and Damm, ranked No 64 in the world, had no answer.

The two men had met four times previously, with Rusedski winning three of those contests, including their last meeting a year ago, at the same stage of this tournament, when the Briton reached the final.

On present form there seems little to stop Rusedski's progress, but he will face stiffer opposition in the last four today, when he meets Marc Rosset, the 1992 Olympic champion, from Switzerland, who is ranked No 30.

Rusedski, who dropped from sixth to eighth in the latest world rankings issued earlier this week, is keen to start climbing the list again and quickly took control yesterday. He broke Damm twice in the first set, in the second and sixth games, and then broke him again in the third game of the second set.

Damm, who is based in Monte Carlo, normally possesses a dangerous first service but, in the opening set, he rarely served into court, which gave Rusedski the chance to dominate rallies even when he was receiving.

Damm, 25, was more accurate in the second set, but again lost his service so early that the writing was on the wall long before Rusedski signed off with his fifteenth ace.

SAILING

## Frostad stays cool in adversity

KNUT FROSTAD, the Norwegian skipper of *Innovation Kvaerner*, who made such an impressive start to the Whitbread Round the World Race with two top-three finishes in the first two legs, fell farther off the pace in the fifth leg yesterday.

Frostad followed up his first two legs with a fifth-place finish in Sydney, but he and Marcel van Triest, his navigator, then admitted that they got their tactics completely wrong on leg four, when they arrived at Auckland in seventh. They have again made mistakes in the opening moves on this all-important Southern Ocean leg to Brazil and were entrenched in seventh place yesterday.

A fast-moving, low pressure system trapped *Kvaerner* and the two yachts behind it, *EF Education* and *Brunel-Sunergy*, leaving Frostad suddenly 133.3 miles behind Paul Standbridge, the leg leader on *Toshiba*, and in real danger of spoiling what chances he still has of winning overall. Frostad reported: "We have kept cool and just kept working."

Meanwhile, Standbridge and Andrew Cape, his navigator, continue to dominate. Yesterday *Toshiba* was making 11.3 knots — the fastest in the fleet — and had a lead of nearly 18 miles over *Swedish Match*, lying second.

Paul Cayard, on *EF Language*, the overall race leader, was third, 32 miles behind *Toshiba*.


Thorntons MAIL ORDER
FOR VALENTINES DAY
Thorntons Continental Heart £14.99
440g

Thorntons Champagne Collection £30.00
100g Champagne Truffles
75cl Perrier Jouët Champagne
Order by 10th February
Quoting Code: FH02
0800 1911 11
Prices include UK delivery
Chocolate Heaven Since 1911

GRAB A *FREE £10 BET

FREE £10 BET
FOR FIRST TIME TELEPHONE CALLERS
staking £25 or more using Switch, Delta or Solo bank or building society debit cards.
RING TODAY • BET TODAY
0800 44 40 40
(Minimum total investment per call £10. Over 18's only.)
*Free bet is a £10 Correct Winning Margin bet on either of these two featured matches. (Please place your bet and make your free bet selection within the same call.)
INTERNATIONS RUGBY
11/10 France 14/1 Draw England 8/11
Stade de France, Kick-off 2.00pm, Live on SKY.
FRANCE | WINNING MARGIN | ENGLAND
7/2 | 1-5 pts | 7/2
9/2 | 6-10 pts | 4/1
8/1 | 11-15 pts | 13/2
14/1 | 16-20 pts | 11/1
28/1 | 21-25 pts | 20/1
14/1 Drawn Match
10/11 Ireland 14/1 Draw Scotland 10/11
Lansdowne Road, Kick-off 3.00pm, Live on BBC TV.
IRELAND | WINNING MARGIN | SCOTLAND
7/2 | 1-5 pts | 7/2
4/1 | 6-10 pts | 4/1
15/2 | 11-15 pts | 15/2
14/1 | 16-20 pts | 14/1
22/1 | 21-25 pts | 22/1
14/1 Drawn Match
Other groups on request. Singles accepted. Margins off scratch. All William Hill Rugby Rules apply.
LATEST RUGBY ODDS • Teletext on CH4 P601/602/603
William HILL
TO OPEN A CREDIT ACCOUNT FREEPHONE 0800 289 892. WILLIAM HILL RULES APPLY. PRICES SUBJECT TO FLUCTUATION

هكذا من الاصل



FOOTBALL SATURDAY

# Strachan keeps Coventry in with a shout

## Mercurial manager is a reluctant spokesman for all who dare to question performance of referees



Strachan pictured in the Coventry City boot-room last week. The way forward, he says, is to foster closer links between players and referees. Photograph: Adrian Sherratt

The upstairs room at the Sky Blue Lodge looks like a teacher's study. There is a desk and an office chair, a stack of letters on a table and a telephone that keeps ringing.

If there was a blackboard, Gordon Strachan would be standing at it, drawing the pie chart that is forming in his mind. This circle, divided into its portions, is a Reasons for Shouting at People from the Touchline pie-chart and the Coventry City manager knows the percentages right down to the nearest decimal point.

In the sometimes perverse world of football analysis, Strachan's antics in that little rectangular area marked out for the manager in front of the dug-out seem to have attracted more comment than his considerable achievements in his brief time at the helm of the most consistent low achievers in the FA Carling Premiership.

The fact that he has edged Coventry away from the borders of the relegation zone that so often becomes their rickety home as the end of the season draws near, that he has masterminded recent wins over Manchester United and Liverpool and effected significant improvements in the games of players such as Dion Dublin, Darren Huckerby and Paul Telfer, has been overshadowed by the fact that he cannot keep his passions in check.

They have become a talking point now, much like Martin O'Neill's manic behaviour on and off the bench at Leicester City. When Strachan launched into a tirade against the refereeing of Stephen Lodge after Coventry's recent draw with Arsenal, the Football Association charged him with insulting behaviour and he found himself typecast as a screaming harpy, the scourge of referees everywhere and a man who fills his players with terror.

**OLIVER HOLT**



But, if O'Neill readily admits to being a slave to his nerves, Strachan, a sharp-witted, humorous man who talks in aphorisms and most definitely does not suffer fools gladly, resents the laziness of those who paint the new caricatures and ridicules the dismay that seems to accompany all criticism of the standard of refereeing in England.

"People have got all this wrong about me screaming and shouting at referees," Strachan said. "I'm not. I'm shouting at my players. To be heard over 30,000 people, you need to try your best at it.

"I would say 25 per cent of the shouting is tactical, 70 per cent is encouragement and 5 per cent is probably giving somebody a rollicking. Everybody seems to think it is 100 per cent rollicking.

"Everybody goes on about stressing out and tells me 'you should be like Ruud Gullit, just sitting there'. I would be like Ruud Gullit if I was a multimillionaire with 11 internationals on the pitch who all know their job.

"I could relax if I had Alex Ferguson's team and I only needed to do one or two wee things. But we are a young side, we beat Manchester United and Liverpool with younger sides than them. They need reminders.

"Tactically, sometimes, their brains switch off so I am there to remind them. It is nothing different to when I was the captain of Leeds. It is just that I am on the sidelines now rather than being in amongst it.

"I watched [Fabio] Capello [the AC Milan manager] on Sunday and he was going crazy and he has got some of the best players in the world but he is still going crazy. Some people do that, some people can sit back, just different types of manager.

"Because the thing with the referees has come up at the same time, people think I'm some kind of a hothead. All these know-alls tell me I'm in trouble. But I've never been reported as a manager. My behaviour has still not been reported by Stephen Lodge or anybody else. People say I'm on the line for this because I've been a bad boy but I am going to appeal. I've just been too busy to do it, yet.

"I know there is an element of futility about criticising referees. But you either do that or you can have a heart attack. It is very hard to bottle it up. Could you just sit there if somebody was giving you stick, unjust stick, could you just sit there and take it?

"I have got a pile of letters over there from Coventry fans, saying 'you're right' and everywhere I go and every coach I go to, they say 'by the way, you're right'. I'm like the unofficial spokesman for managers and coaches. They're all going 'well, he's right', but I'm carrying the can for it.

"I don't know what the big problem is, anyway. For years, the critics have said that the English game is not very good and, as managers, coaches and players, you have to accept that. I do not know what is wrong with somebody saying the standard of refereeing is not very good.

"It is like saying the local buses are bad, the standard of the trains is bad, British Airways charge too much. It seems to be freedom of speech is OK unless it is with referees. Maybe I'm totally wrong. But, again, you still cannot fine me for being totally wrong."

The solution, Strachan said, is more interaction between players, coaches and referees, encouraging the likes of Lodge, Dermot Gallagher and Graham Poll to attend team training sessions, to watch videos with players, even to mix socially with them. In his days as Leeds United captain, when he led the team to the first division title in 1992, referees were invited to the Players' Bar after games.

In general, though, Strachan, the right-sided midfield player who graced Old Trafford for five years in the late-Eighties, is far more concerned with his own players than with the arbiters of the game. His ambition, he said, is not centred on Coventry finishing in a certain position or on winning a particular trophy, but on getting the best out of his players, on improving them so that they can perform to their absolute maximum.

"My motivation just now is getting players better," he said. "It is things like Dion Dublin and Darren Huckerby doing well and Paul Telfer. I want to get the players better as a group and because of that, if I get it right, the club will be more successful.

"I was quite excited this week telling Dion that he was in the England squad. That was as exciting as somebody telling me I was in the squad when I played for Scotland. That has been the most enjoyable moment of the job so far, telling Dion that.

"On the other side of the coin, if you have somebody who is not really good enough, well, you don't really criticise them in any way or try to cajole them to do better because there is no more in them. There are kids that are here who are not good enough, so what you do is leave them alone and talk to them nicely. But you keep demanding more from people who have got more. They get upset at that sometimes, but there you go, that's the way it is."

Strachan's work at Coventry, his success in keeping the team in the Premiership last season, has brought widespread admiration and an offer from Benfica earlier in the season, but he insists he is "more than happy" at Highfield Road, that his five-year contract "will definitely give me enough time to see whether I am good enough".

To try to shut out the pressures, Strachan, who will be 41 on Monday, takes his wife to lunch every Wednesday and goes to the pictures on Thursday nights. If there is a lull in the film, he catches himself thinking 'what about if I play him here' or 'I hope we don't get beat on Saturday'.

**'I would be like Ruud Gullit if I was a multimillionaire with 11 internationals. I could relax with Alex Ferguson's team'**

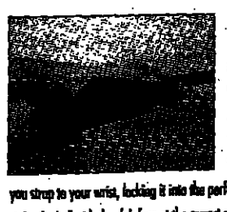
For a man who is supposed to be a ranter and a raver, though, he has got things clearly in perspective. "I still get disappointed if we lose a game," he said, "but whatever the press and the supporters say cannot hurt you really. All they can say to you is 'you're not a very good manager'.

"That's all they can do to you. They can't take your house away from you. They can't take your family away from you. They cannot come along with big sticks and batter you. All they can say is 'you're not a very good manager' and, one day, you might have to accept that.

For Strachan and for Coventry City, that day has not yet dawned.


HANDICAP

(WITH GREG NORMAN'S SECRET™, YOU CAN BRING IT DOWN.)



Do you want to drive further off the tee, make better approach shots and sink more putts? Do you want to play like Greg Norman, a living golf legend?

Now you can....

Made from composite polymers, Greg Norman's Secret™ is a unique practice aid that you strap to your wrist, locking it into the perfect position for gripping the shaft. It trains you to strike the ball with the club face at the correct angle for maximum distance and greater accuracy. Giving every shot the same pinpoint precision as when you address it as a practice stroke.

No more slicing or hooking - your driving, chipping, putting and all-round game will get better thanks to the corrective training the Secret™ brings to your grip... your handicap is sure to come down!



Greg swears by the Secret™. His 30 minute video which comes free with the Secret™ demonstrates the dramatic effect it can have on players of all standards. Available exclusively through Screenshop, it's at the special price of £64.95 incl. postage and packing. To receive yours, just call 0870 840 0800, or return the coupon to FREEPOST SCREENSHOP (no stamp or address required).

If you're not satisfied the Secret™ has improved your game, return it and we'll refund your money less p&p.

Name
Address
Postcode
I wish to pay by CHEQUE (payable to Screenshop) VISA ACCESS MASTERCARD SWITCH DELTA
Debit or Charge no.
Expiry date Issue no.

Screenshop Ltd, Quest Portland Street, London W1N 5TB. Registered in England no: 3154797. Please allow 28 days for delivery. Refund payable for £59.00 if goods returned in satisfactory condition within 28 days of receipt.

A FREE 10 BET
FIVE NATIONS RUGBY


# Kendall in angry mood after Speed's departure

By Matt Dickinson

GARY SPEED, who completed his £5.5 million transfer from Everton to Newcastle United yesterday, was sent on his way by an angry outburst from Howard Kendall, the Everton manager, who believes the Wales international and Newcastle have acted improperly.

Speed, 28, who is eligible for the game against West Ham United at St James' Park today, ended his Goodison Park career in controversial circumstances when he refused to travel for the match at Upton Park last week.

"I'm disappointed in the way it happened," Kendall said. "We were very determined to hang on to the player but he was equally determined to move on and he elected to do certain things to try to escalate the deal. Maybe it is something I have got to look at. I may not be able to prise away quality players from other clubs so I may have to come at them through their representatives, tell them to put in written transfer requests and tell them not to turn up and play for their clubs.

"I don't want to get into a row. I am just looking at the events of the past few weeks, which have ended in a player under contract getting his wish to move to another club. I would certainly not go about my business like that."

After the sale of Andy Hinchcliffe to Sheffield Wednesday, Kendall now has more than £8 million to spend. But Aston Villa have refused to part with their midfield player, Mark Draper, while Darren Peacock, the Newcastle centre half, declined the opportunity to move to Merseyside as part of the fee for Speed, whose position of club captain goes to Duncan Ferguson.

Matt Jansen, the young Carlisle United striker, has opted to join Crystal Palace rather than Manchester United in a transfer that could be worth £2 million, depending on appearances. Jansen, 20, was worried that he would face a long wait for a first-team place at Old Trafford.

Alex Ferguson, the Manchester United manager, has secured the services of another long-term prospect in Erland Hanstveit. The 17-year-old Norwegian centre half is to remain with Brann Bergen on loan and will not officially become a United player until 2001.

Matt Holmes, 28, the Charlton Athletic midfield player, has taken legal advice after watching video replays of the tackle that has put his career in jeopardy. Holmes has had a second operation on the leg broken in a challenge by Kevin Muscat, of Wolverhampton Wanderers, during the FA Cup fourth-round replay at Molineux on Tuesday.

Charlton have told Holmes, signed from Blackburn Rovers for £250,000, that they will back any attempt by him to seek compensation. "Charlton will give their full support to Matt in any legal action," Peter Varney, the club's managing director, said. "He has sustained an injury that could be career-threatening."

Martin Keown, the Arsenal defender, has pulled out of the England squad for the game against Chile at Wembley on Wednesday because of a hamstring injury. Keown hopes to be fit for the FA Cup fifth-round tie with Crystal Palace next weekend.

# Wimbledon plan gets support from Europe

WIMBLEDON have been told by European Union officials that the EU would not be opposed in principle to the London club's plan to relocate to Dublin.

Their proposed move from Selhurst Park has met strong resistance from the Football Association of Ireland (FAI), but Willy Helin, a spokesman for Karel Van Miert, the EU commissioner of competitions, said: "As a prima-facie case, the European Union would have no objections to the move."

Helin added: "Because there is so much money at stake, this is not something that can be rushed through by the EU.

"Ideally, we would like to see the situation resolved between Wimbledon and the Irish football federation."

That is unlikely to be the case, however, as the FAI has reacted angrily to a claim by Sam Hammam, the Wimbledon chairman, that all 22 clubs in the Irish national league now support the proposed move.

Pat Quigley, the FAI president, said: "The unanimous decision of all 22 clubs to oppose any move to relocate the club in Dublin still stands."

# Gould launches world hunt to save the Wales

IT MIGHT be wicked to suggest that Wales are becoming desperate, as they languish 932nd or thereabouts in the world rankings, but why are they using an Internet firm to search for players with Welsh ancestry? Come in Dai Kamamoto, Hong Seng Evans and Vladimir Joneski: your nation needs you.

Cityp@ges, a firm based in Newport, has been maintaining the official website of the Football Association of Wales (faw.co.uk) for the past year and has publicised details of international squads and Welsh football. Now, its net is widening. After a request from David Collins, general secretary of the FAW, a page has been added to the site asking for players with Welsh grandparents to send their details to Bobby Gould, the team manager. Alan Clarke, the managing director of Cityp@ges, said: "There are millions of users worldwide. It will be interesting to see how many people come forward."

## Flat Whitbread

Adrian Whitbread, the Portsmouth captain, has been keeping a low profile at Fratton Park since the results were known of those from the club who had sat their preliminary coaching badge. Eleven of the YTS lads passed, Whitbread did not. "Adie swotted up for the test, but failed miserably," a team-mate said. "He tried to keep it quiet, but it slipped out. He's a bit embarrassed by it."

## Fanning flames

Players and officials of Real Betis, the Spanish first division club, were left feeling hot under the collar when firemen at Seville airport refused to stay on duty for their flight home from a match against Real Zaragoza. Manuel Ruiz de Lopera, the Betis president, suggested that the crew were fans of Sevilla, their local rivals. Instead, the Betis boys landed at Jérez de la Frontera, 90 kilometres from home.

*West Ham United were not keen on letting the train, or the team coach, take the strain for their FA Carling Premiership match against Newcastle United this afternoon so they decided to take the aerial route to Tyneside*




*... minus one player. Has Harry Redknapp secretly signed Dennis Bergkamp?*

## Looking up

Clissold Park Rovers, a Thames League side at the bottom of football's pyramid, want to give Stevenage Borough a taste of their own medicine after what they see as "bad manners" from the Conference club in their FA Cup dealings with Newcastle. Rovers propose a match on Hackney Marshes. "We only get three or four fans so an extra stand would not be necessary if you wanted to play the match at home," Alex Leith, Rovers' player-manager, challenges.

**STRANGE BUT TRUE:** When Brian Talbot took over at West Bromwich Albion in 1988, it ended a remarkable-sounding run of managers at The Hawthorns: Don, Johnny, Ronnie, Ron, Ronnie, Ron, Johnny, Ron, Ron.

Amid all the hullaballoo at St James' Park on Wednesday night, when Stevenage Borough finally bowed to the might of Newcastle United in their FA Cup fourth-round replay, the significance of Paul Thompson's 64th-minute appearance as a substitute became lost. Thompson, Stevenage's record £20,000 signing from Gateshead last summer, is a Geordie lad born and bred but had not played for Borough since his second pre-season match, when he broke an ankle.

Alan Shearer, his idol, sent him a get-well card, having read about his plight in the Tyneside newspapers as he recovered from a similar injury, and it was perhaps appropriate that Thompson's return should take place at the ground that he so often frequented as a teenage spectator. It was a generous gesture by Paul Fairclough, the Stevenage manager.

Thompson, 24, was still barely match fit, but his boyhood dream was realised. "I don't know how much of it was sentiment on my part but I would think that Paul will happily relive tonight forever," Fairclough said afterwards.

# FOOTBALL SATURDAY

ARSENAL
v
CHELSEA
Tomorrow, 4.0 (sold out)



**Oliver Holt**

Arsenal were told yesterday that they could no longer expect Ian Wright to endure the prolonged rigours of a full FA Carling Premiership season.

However, Tiburce Darrou, a French fitness coach, told the club that Wright could still be effective in brief spurts. Against Chelsea tomorrow, Wright may get his chance to begin his first mini-spree.

Darrou, who has been treating the England striker for a hamstring pull at a clinic in the South of France, said that he had recovered from the injury. Arsène Wenger, the Arsenal manager, may pitch him straight back in alongside Dennis Bergkamp in the London derby that seems to have been set up as the capital's eliminator for the right to challenge Manchester United.

With Arsenal in fifth place in the table and Chelsea second — and neither firing on all cylinders — the side that wins at Highbury tomorrow afternoon could be given an important kick-start for the closing months of their league campaign.

Arsenal will hope that Marc Overmars's rich vein of scoring continues. The Holland international had struggled to justify his £7 million price tag since his move from Ajax last summer, but he has started to find his best form and scored one of his rush of goals in Arsenal's 2-1 victory over Chelsea in the first leg of their Coca-Cola Cup semi-final ten days ago.

Overmars's contribution will be particularly significant if Wright is not considered fit enough to start the match, especially as Arsenal will be without David Seaman and Martin Keown. The latter, who has a hamstring injury, was ruled out of the game yesterday and also withdrawn from the England squad to face Chile.

Chelsea have had problems of their own. The behind-closed-doors players' meeting of a week ago is supposed to have focused their minds on the consistency of effort they need to achieve and a scrappy 2-0 win over Barnsley moved them ahead of the rest of the chasing pack.

Although they are missing Frank Sinclair, on international duty with Jamaica, Chelsea will have Roberto Di Matteo restored to their ranks after suspension and are likely to recall the out-of-sorts Gianfranco Zola to the attack, possibly instead of Gianluca Vialli.

United will be hoping for another draw; another bout of challengers falling over each other in their haste to catch the champions. It looks the most likely outcome.

ARSENAL (4-4-2): A Manninger — L Dixon, A Adams, S Bould, N Winterburn — R Parlour, P Vieira, E Petit, M Overmars — I Wright, D Bergkamp.
CHELSEA (3-5-2): K Hitchcock — S Clarke, F Leboeuf, M Duberry — D Petrescu, R Di Matteo, D Wise, E Newton, G Le Saux — T A Flo, G Zola.
Referee: D Gallagher

■ TELEVISION: Tomorrow: Live on Sky Sports 1, from 3pm.
■ PREDICTION: Draw.

DAN SMITH/ ALLSPORT



Palace in ruins: Dyer and Brolin get ready to kick off after Madar had put Everton within reach of another stroll at Selhurst

## FIRST 11 ELEVEN

### HOME ALONE 12

*On Monday, Crystal Palace make their twelfth attempt to win a home game in the Premiership. Wimbledon, their "visitors", have already lost to Palace at Selhurst this season, but that was their home game. Confused? You will be, as we reveal the full gruesome tale of Palace at home in 97-98*

1. Barnsley. Lost 0-1
*A win at Goodison on the opening day, home to the relegation favourites on the Wednesday evening. It all looked so promising*

2. Blackburn Rovers. Lost 1-2
*Sorted out by Sutton*

3. Chelsea. Lost 0-3
*A Ruud awakening at the hands of Leboeuf, Hughes and Le Saux*

4. Bolton Wanderers. Drew 2-2
*2-0 up in 19 minutes, surely they must win this time. They didn't*

5. Arsenal. Drew 0-0
*Bergkamp's booking drew more comment than the football*

6. Aston Villa. Drew 1-1
*That win was four minutes away when Julian Joachim equalised*

7. Newcastle United. Lost 1-2
*That deadly goalscoring duo, Ketsbaia and Tomasson, did for Palace this time*

8. Liverpool. Lost 0-3
*Spice and easy does it*

9. Southampton. Drew 1-1
*It was 1-1, 11 minutes from time, when Palace got a penalty. Up stepped Itzik Zohar. He missed*

10. Everton. Lost 0-3
*When Nick Barmby scores against you, you know you're in trouble*

11. Leeds United. Lost 0-2
*Wallace 7, Hasselbaink 13. You know the rest*

Compiled by Richard Whitehead

---

BLACKBURN ROVERS
v
TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR
Today, 3.0 (sold out)



**Matt Dickinson**

Chris Sutton's decision to pull out of the England B squad is based, to a considerable extent, on the belief that he is in better form than others selected ahead of him — notably Les Ferdinand.

It is safe to assume, therefore, that the Blackburn striker will relish the chance to make his point this afternoon when Spurs, and Ferdinand, come to town.

"I have to ask how many strikers are playing better," Sutton said this week and it is a fair question that Glenn Hoddle must have struggled to answer when they spoke.

With 13 Premiership goals this season, Sutton is in the best form of his career and, at 24, there is no reason to think he will not continue to improve under Roy Hodgson's guidance, although he is without Kevin Gallacher, his regular partner up front, through injury.

So while the knee-jerk reaction to Sutton's decision was to dismiss the player's rashness, it could well be that Hoddle also lives to regret his decision.

With Ferdinand increasingly injury-prone and inconsistent, Dion Dublin as yet untried, Ian Wright ageing and Robbie Fowler also entitled to mistrust the England coach after being dropped, it is more than likely that Sutton could finish the season as the most prolific striker. And who is to say Alan Shearer may not be injured again?

It could prove an even more embarassing situation for Hoddle should Sutton's goals lead Blackburn to the Premiership and they should stay within touch of leaders Manchester United with a home victory against ailing Spurs this afternoon.

Nothing about Christian Gross's side suggests that they have a chance of recording their fifth win in his thirteenth game in charge and Jürgen Klinsmann will, of course, be absent with a fractured jaw.

David Ginola, who continues to be his club's most consistent performer, is likely to be pushed forward.

BLACKBURN ROVERS (4-4-2): T Flowers — J Kenna, S Henchoz, C Hendry, G Croft — S Ripley, T Sherwood, W McAnuity, J Wilcox — C Sutton, M Dahlin
TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR (4-4-1-1): E Baardsen — S Carr, R Vega, S Carrodeer, C Wilson — R Fox, S Clemence, N Berti, D Howells — D Ginola — L Ferdinand.
Referee: G Barber.

■ TELEVISION: Today: *Match of the Day*, BBC1 10.45pm, extended highlights.
■ PREDICTION: Sutton to show why he thinks he should be Hoddle's first choice in emphatic home win.

---

BARNSLEY
v
EVERTON
Today, 3.0 (sold out)



**Nick Szczepanik**

When these teams met at Goodison Park in September, Everton, the better of two poor outfits, won 4-2, Danny Cadamarteri scoring on his full league debut. Nowadays, Howard Kendall, voted Carling Manager of the Month for January, can even afford to leave Cadamarteri out and his improving side, which left fortress Upton last week with a deserved draw, will probably be unchanged today. "We look like a team and everybody's working for each other," a born-again Nick Barmby said.

A comfortable win, then, for the visitors at Oakwell this afternoon? Perhaps not. Even though Barnsley had a hard midweek FA Cup replay against Tottenham Hotspur, in which, significantly, Dave Watson, their goalkeeper, was a strong contender for man of the match, they will be buoyed by their 3-1 victory.

They probably would have traded Cup progress for some FA Carling Premiership points, but, with Jan Aage Fjortoft, cup-tied on Wednesday, available again, Barnsley will hope to acquire three of those precious items today. One would be the minimum acceptable for a team that has also improved since autumn — although, in their case, that would not have been difficult — but are still bottom of the table.

BARNSLEY (possible: 3-4-1-2): D Watson — A Moses, A de Zeeuw, C Morgan — N Eaden, J Bosancic, N Redfearn, D Barnard — D Bullock — A Ward, J A Fjortoft.
EVERTON (probable: 4-3-1-2): T Myhre — J O'Kane, S Bilic, D Watson, M Ball — A Grant, G Farrelly, M Ward — N Barmby — M Madar, D Ferguson
Referee: M Bodenham

■ TELEVISION: Today: *Match of the Day*, brief highlights.
■ PREDICTION: Score draw.

---



**Russell Kempson**

Last month, Dion Dublin, the Coventry City striker, was vilified by many supporters for refusing a new contract, reportedly worth £16,000 a week, at Highfield Road. During the past week, though, Dublin has been selected for the England squad to play Chile at Wembley on Wednesday and also voted the FA Carling Premiership's player of the month — the first Coventry player to receive such an honour.

"Making history is great," he said. "It's been a fantastic few days for me and I'm just trying to enjoy it as much as I can." With Darren Huckerby and Marcus Hall, Dublin's team-mates, called up for the B international against Chile on Tuesday, Coventry await the visit of Sheffield Wednesday with a confident glow. Hall is likely to replace the suspended Noel Whelan today.

Ron Atkinson, the Wednesday manager, returns to the club that he left in a grade-one mess until Gordon Strachan moved up from pupil to teacher in November 1996. He has not done so badly at Hillsborough, with Wednesday having lost only two of ten FA Carling Premiership matches since his arrival, and his huge presence should at least ensure some lively banter in the cheap seats this afternoon.

COVENTRY CITY
v
SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY
Today, 3.0

COVENTRY CITY (possible: 4-4-2): M Hedman — R Nilsson, R Shaw, G Breen, D Burrows — P Telfer, T E Schvedt, J Salako, G Boateng — D Dublin, D Huckerby.
SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY (possible: 4-4-2): K Pressman — I Nolan, D Walker, J Newsome, A Hinchcliffe — G Hyde, P Atherton, M Pembridge, P Rudi — S Carbone, P Di Canio.
Referee: G Ashby.

■ TELEVISION: Today: *Match of the Day*, brief highlights.
■ PREDICTION: Wee Gordon beats Big Ron.

---



***Brian Glanville***

Jim Smith, the Derby County manager, is seething, justifiably, at the loss of Paulo Wanchope and Deon Burton to the meaningless Gold Cup in Florida. Wanchope rubbed salt into the wound by scoring four goals for Costa Rica against Cuba this week. But this still leaves Derby with the formidable attacking pair of Dean Sturridge and Francesco Baiano.

In midfield, another Italian star, Stefano Eranio, is at last playing regularly again to add his skill and experience, while Croatia's Igor Stimac will marshal the defence. One wonders how well it will need to play against the incisive Dwight Yorke and the enigmatic Stan Collymore, like Aston Villa themselves, the very embodiment of inconsistency. Villa thrashed West Bromwich Albion in the FA Cup last month and then lost feebly to Newcastle United at home.

Steve Staunton, who has allegedly demanded a £1 million signing-on fee and £20,000 a week to stay at Villa when his contract runs out this summer (he will not get it), could return to the three-man defence instead of Scimeca. Staunton says he will continue to give 100 per cent, which must reassure Brian Little, the beleaguered manager. Ian Taylor, suspended, is missing from the Villa midfield.

DERBY COUNTY
v
ASTON VILLA
Today, 3.0 (sold out)

DERBY COUNTY (probable, 4-4-2): M Poom — D Yates, I Simac, C Powell, J Laursen — D Powell, L Carsley, S Eranio, R Williams — D Sturridge, F Baiano
ASTON VILLA (probable: 3-5-2): M Bosnich — G Southgate, S Staunton, U Ehiogu — F Nelson, L Hendrie, M Draper, S Grayson, A Wright — D Yorke, S Collymore
Referee: P Alcock.

■ TELEVISION: Today: *Match of the Day*, extended highlights.
■ PREDICTION: Derby to win.

---



**Ivo Tennant**

To all but themselves. Leicester City's victory over Manchester United last week was quite unexpected. They know now that few clubs will patronise them in a way that was all too prevalent earlier in the season.

The team will most likely be left intact unless Walsh fails to recover from a groin injury. Martin O'Neill, the Leicester manager, might give Theo Zagorakis, the captain of Greece, who was signed on Thursday from PAOK Salonika, his FA Carling Premiership debut.

Marshall will be missing for a month, also with a groin injury, but George Graham, the Leeds United manager, will have to contend with Guppy and Heskey, both of whom are in the England B squad for the international against Chile.

In their last match, Leeds beat Crystal Palace, who, the previous week, had knocked Leicester out of the FA Cup. Such statistics, as Graham is aware, do not necessarily count for much where such opponents are concerned. Leeds will be without Molenaar.

Leeds this week launched a supporters' forum with the aim of examining issues such as racism at Elland Road. The club has also sought supporters' views on creating a life-size bronze statue of the late Billy Bremner, their former captain and manager.

LEICESTER CITY
v
LEEDS UNITED
Today, 3.0 (sold out)

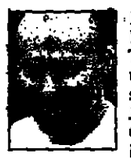
LEICESTER CITY (probable: 3-5-2): K Keller — P Kozminski, M Elliott, S Walsh — R Savage, M Izzet, G Patterson, N Lennon, S Guppy — A Cottee, E Heskey
LEEDS UNITED (possible: 4-1-3-2): N Martyn — G Kelly, D Wetherall, G Halle, D Robertson — L Radebe — D Hopkin, B Ribeiro, H Kewell — R Wallace, J F Hasselbaink.
Referee: N Barry

■ TELEVISION: Today: *Match of the Day*, brief highlights.
■ PREDICTION: A dour draw.

---



LIVERPOOL
v
SOUTHAMPTON
Today, 3.0 (sold out)



**Peter Robinson**

The most natural goalscorer since Jimmy Greaves: the heir to Keegan, Dalglish and, in particular, Rush as the darling of the Kop; destined, perhaps, to be the youngest England international of the century; the world is at his feet, the World Cup beckoning. Michael Owen is the darling of everybody's eye, except, of course, Robbie Fowler — colleague and, suddenly, rival not merely for a place in the Liverpool team, but for England, too.

All eyes at Anfield today will be on the two strikers — injury permitting. Fowler has a bad back, but he needs to play as well and as often as possible if he is to rescue his chances of going to France in the summer, so he is unlikely to let that stop him taking part this afternoon.

There are minor doubts over sore hamstrings belonging to McManaman and Babb, but both should play, with Rob Jones stepping in at right back to replace McAteer, who was ruled out for at least two months last week with a broken leg.

If Liverpool needed further motivation today, the stumble last week by Manchester United should be plenty, for suddenly the FA Carling Premiership appears to be up for grabs again. Liverpool, though, face a tough afternoon against a Southampton team who ran all over them at The Dell in September and were unlucky only to draw.

Palmer and Benali are still suspended and Davies, the tyro striker, is doubtful with an ankle problem (Palmer and Davies were especially missed at Arsenal last week), but John Beresford is available after an unexpected £1.5 million move from Newcastle United and will play at left back. Benali, you suspect, may have a long wait before he returns to the side.

LIVERPOOL (probable, 4-4-2): D James — R Jones, D Matteo, P Babb, S Harkness — S McManaman, P Ince, J Carragher, G Leonhardsen — M Owen, R Fowler
SOUTHAMPTON (probable: 4-3-3): P Jones — J Dodd, K Monkou, C Lundekvam, J Beresford — K Richardson, M Le Tissier, M Oakley — D Hirst, E Oqrenstad, K Davies
Referee: J Winter

■ TELEVISION: Today: *Match of the Day*, brief highlights.
■ PREDICTION: Home win.

---



**Oliver Holt**

On a day when the occasion will overshadow the match, Manchester United and Bolton Wanderers will try to concentrate on arresting poor runs of form that have affected their positions at opposite ends of the FA Carling Premiership table.

The game will start at 3.15pm after the laying of wreaths by contingents from both these famous old clubs to mark the fortieth anniversary yesterday of the Munich air disaster.

The FA Cup Final of 1958, three months after the crash, was contested by these two teams and Bolton beat a drastically depleted United team 2-0. This afternoon, United, who have established a similar kind of domestic hegemony to the one enjoyed by Matt Busby's team, will be the favourites.

Recent defeats by Coventry City, Southampton and Leicester City have dented the air of invincibility they had started to exude in the Premiership, but they still have a four-point lead over their nearest challengers, Chelsea. The combination of the occasion and the need to atone for recent failings bodes ill for the visitors.

The previous meeting between the two teams this season was a stormy affair in which Gary Pallister was sent off (a punishment later downgraded to a yellow card) and, with Bolton just one place off the bottom of the table, passions are likely to be high again.

MANCHESTER UNITED
v
BOLTON WANDERERS
Today, 3.0 (sold out)

"We must look to restore some pride," Colin Todd, the Bolton manager, said yesterday. "Derby games are always special, but it is crucial we go to Old Trafford with the right attitude. We all know it is a very big game, especially given the circumstances and the significance of the date and we will all respect the occasion. The most important thing is to get some points on the board."

United will be without their inspirational midfield player, Nicky Butt, who is suspended. His most obvious replacement, Ronnie Johnsen, is struggling with injury and United may play Solskjaer in attack with Cole and the returning Sheringham. That combination should be too strong for Bolton.

MANCHESTER UNITED (4-4-2): P Schmeichel — G Neville, G Pallister, H Berg, D Irwin — D Beckham, P Scholes, R Johnsen, R Giggs — E Sheringham, A Cole.
BOLTON WANDERERS (4-4-2): K Branagan — A Todd, G Bergsson, C Fairclough, J Phillips — A Thompson, P Beardsley, P Frandsen, S Sellars — N Blake, D Holdsworth.
Referee: S Lodge.

■ TELEVISION: Today: *Match of the Day*, brief highlights.
■ PREDICTION: United back to winning ways.

---



***Keith Pike***

The wind of change sweeping through St James' Park is picking up pace — or should that be gathering speed? Whichever, Hurricane Kenny has only a few cobwebs from Kevin Keegan's reign left to disperse.

Not that Keegan was slow to flash the transfer cash, but his successor seemed to have adopted the philosophy that if his team cannot play its way back into the hearts of the Newcastle supporters then a frantic spending spree is the next best thing.

Of the side that Keegan fielded in the corresponding fixture last season, when Beardsley's late goal salvaged a 1-1 draw for the team then leading the FA Carling Premiership, only three players, Lee, Batty and Gillespie, are assured of their places under Dalglish. Five have been sold on and the remaining three are regularly out of favour.

Now, having got Stevenage Borough out of their system, if unconvincingly and ungraciously, Newcastle are at a pivotal point. Their victory over Aston Villa on Sunday edged them back into the top half of the table: 14 games to go, nine points clear of the relegation zone, nine adrift of a place in Europe. They came out of the pack last season to qualify for the European Cup Champions' League.

Much will depend on how quickly Gary Speed fits into the system, but a trio of Lee, Batty and Speed in midfield has potential. The sale of Beresford and injuries to Watson and Howey could also see Andrew Griffin make his debut, although Barton and Pistone are more probably starters, but it is to Alan Shearer that Newcastle will inevitably look for inspiration.

Shearer and Andersson, Dalglish's ninth different striking combination, are likely to resume their partnership. Of the five games before Shearer's return from injury, Newcastle lost four. Of the next five, they won three and drew one.

West Ham have Kitson available again, but he is unlikely to be risked. The confrontation between Shearer and Ferdinand, England stars of present and future, should be the most intriguing sub-plot of an enticing fixture.

NEWCASTLE UNITED
v
WEST HAM UNITED
Today, 3.0 (sold out)

NEWCASTLE UNITED (possible: 3-5-2): S Given — P Albert, S Pearce, A Pistone — W Barton, R Lee, D Batty, G Speed, K Gillespie — A Shearer, A Andersson.
WEST HAM UNITED (probable: 3-4-1-2): C Forrest — I Pearce, S Potts, R Rednapp — T Brevicki, F Lampard, S Lomas, S Lazaridis — E Berkovic — J Hanson, T Sinclair.
Referee: U Rennie.

■ TELEVISION: Today: *Match of the Day*, extended highlights.
■ PREDICTION: Newcastle to win three points and a few plaudits.

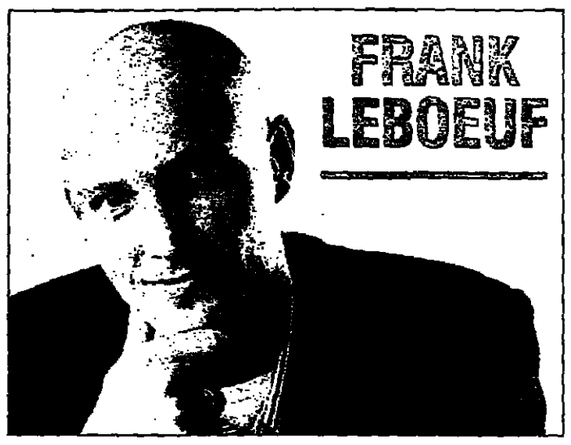
---

**ON MONDAY**

Brilliant insights or hopeless guesses? Check our writers' predictions against their weekend match reports

# FOOTBALL SATURDAY

# The real reason why Chelsea's players felt it was good to talk




I should have known better than to think our "secret" players' meeting at the Chelsea training ground last week would remain within the dressing-room walls. You cannot sneeze at Stamford Bridge without it making the news.

Now that our little chat is out in the open, I should take this opportunity to clear up a few misconceptions. I have heard a lot of people trying to find sinister motives, use it as proof that there is a crisis at the club or suggest that it was a clandestine meeting behind Ruud Gullit's back. So let me make it clear straight away that there is no mutiny being planned.

The very simple truth of the matter is that we have not been playing well and it comes to a point where you have to look at yourself and try to discover why. Against Everton and Arsenal, particularly, we were very unhappy at how we performed and that was the catalyst for Dennis Wise and Steve Clarke, as club captains, and Gianluca Vialli, as a successful and respected player with vast experience, to call us together.

They rightly believed that it would be healthy for the players, without the coaches, directors or any other staff, just to sit down and have a frank and honest chat about how we were going to make sure that we did not allow our season to fizzle out.

It was the first time I have ever been involved in a discussion like that — I wish I had before because it might have ironed out problems elsewhere — but I think it happened because there are unique circumstances at Chelsea. I don't think I am disparaging anyone who has been at the club for a while to say that in the past few years it has grown from a small, underachieving club to one that is on the verge of real success.

The speed of that change has been remarkable and I believe that the club, at times, is still adjusting. That is why for the meeting we made sure that every player was involved from David Rocastle, who has been in the reserves, to Jody Morris and Mark Nicholls, youngsters just trying to break into the first team.

There was a deliberate attempt to let everybody have their say and discuss if they had worries about how the club was developing, if they were happy with their role and what could be done to make them feel at home. Of course everyone has individual ambitions, but there are goals we all share and it was a chance to be reminded of them. We are all still learning, even Ruud, who, people seem to forget, has only been a manager for a very short time.

So, far from being a crisis meeting, it reflected the fact that we have a great camaraderie in the dressing room that enables us to sit down and thrash out exactly what we all want from our careers and the best way to go about it. It was honest and blunt, but there were no raised voices or recriminations.

It was certainly not a case of player-power. Players are sometimes criticised for not taking responsibility for their performances and letting the manager take the blame. Well, at Chelsea, we were simply showing that we were not happy with our displays.

### ■ Sutton's folly

I was amazed to hear of Chris Sutton's decision this week to pull out of the England squad rather than play for the B team. Having played against him this season, I can honestly say that he is one of the best strikers in the country.

The first thing you have to say is that he appears to have committed suicide as far as his England career goes. I can see Glenn Hoddle being in charge of the national side for many years to come and it is difficult to see him picking the Blackburn striker again.

The other interesting fact is that if Sutton had made that decision in France, he would have faced a hefty fine from the football federation. Eric Cantona was not only fined but banned for a year when he declined to play for the national side under Henri Michel — calling the coach a few unprintable names did not help — and turning down a cap is regarded as something you just cannot do in my home country.

It seems a great shame because Sutton is only 24. I played five or six times for the France B squad and it was only when I was in my late 20s that I won my first cap in the full team. Sometimes you have to be patient. Sutton is already an excellent player and one with potential to get better. I hope he does not come to regret his decision.

### ■ Drawing the line

It has been quite a week for football stories, none more horrific than that of the linesman who was attacked by a fan at Portsmouth. It is a sad day indeed when someone takes the game that seriously.

I have argued before that the officials should be professionals like the players and, while that does not guarantee safety against the actions of one idiot, it would definitely help to improve the standing and standard of referees and linesmen.

For Chelsea's last league game, against Barnsley, we had the lineswoman, Wendy Toms. I have to say she was considerably better than the other two officials that afternoon and I wished her all the best for her career after the game. Hopefully she will encourage more women to try, although the horrific events at Fratton Park will not help.

### ■ Turn up the heat

When I last wrote, I was just about to make two debuts. The first was on the catwalks of Paris as a fashion model. I greatly enjoyed it, although the only celebrity I got to mix with afterwards, apart from the other models, was Lionel Ritchie.

The other debut was at the Stade de France, which was officially opened when we played against Spain. It is undoubtedly a fantastic stadium, but I cannot believe that the rugby international this afternoon was in jeopardy because of a frozen pitch.

We spend millions of pounds building a ground and save a few thousand by not putting in undersoil heating. Worse still, we then have to turn to an English company to solve the problem. Embarrassing days for a Frenchman!

# FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP

| (Last week's position in brackets) | PLAYED | POINTS | GOAL DIFF | HOME W | HOME D | HOME L | HOME F | HOME A | AWAY W | AWAY D | AWAY L | AWAY F | AWAY A | LAST 10 MATCHES W-D-L | CURRENT STREAK |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. MANCHESTER UTD (1) | 24 | 49 | +33 | 10 | 1 | 1 | 32 | 5 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 19 | 13 | 7-0-3 | L2 |
| 2. CHELSEA (4) | 24 | 45 | +27 | 8 | 2 | 1 | 22 | 8 | 6 | 1 | 6 | 30 | 17 | 6-2-2 | W1 |
| 3. BLACKBURN ROVERS (2) | 24 | 45 | +20 | 8 | 3 | 1 | 30 | 12 | 4 | 6 | 2 | 14 | 12 | 5-3-2 | D1 |
| 4. LIVERPOOL (3) | 24 | 45 | +20 | 9 | 1 | 3 | 26 | 10 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 13 | 9 | 7-2-1 | D1 |
| 5. ARSENAL (5) | 23 | 41 | +16 | 8 | 2 | 2 | 26 | 9 | 3 | 6 | 2 | 16 | 17 | 5-2-3 | W1 |
| 6. DERBY COUNTY (6) | 24 | 39 | +9 | 9 | 3 | 0 | 25 | 7 | 2 | 3 | 7 | 14 | 23 | 4-4-2 | W1 |
| 7. LEEDS UTD (7) | 24 | 38 | +7 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 17 | 14 | 6 | 2 | 4 | 17 | 13 | 4-3-3 | W1 |
| 8. WEST HAM UTD (8) | 24 | 35 | +1 | 9 | 1 | 1 | 26 | 8 | 2 | 1 | 10 | 10 | 27 | 6-1-3 | D1 |
| 9. LEICESTER CITY (9) | 24 | 33 | +5 | 3 | 7 | 3 | 13 | 11 | 5 | 2 | 4 | 14 | 11 | 2-5-3 | W1 |
| 10. NEWCASTLE UTD (10) | 24 | 32 | -4 | 6 | 3 | 4 | 15 | 14 | 3 | 2 | 6 | 10 | 15 | 2-2-6 | W1 |
| 11. SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY (11) | 24 | 30 | -10 | 6 | 3 | 4 | 21 | 19 | 2 | 3 | 6 | 16 | 28 | 5-3-2 | D1 |
| 12. SOUTHAMPTON (12) | 24 | 28 | -7 | 7 | 1 | 4 | 19 | 14 | 1 | 3 | 8 | 7 | 19 | 3-3-4 | L1 |
| 13. COVENTRY CITY (16) | 24 | 27 | -6 | 4 | 7 | 1 | 19 | 14 | 2 | 2 | 8 | 9 | 20 | 3-1-6 | W1 |
| 14. EVERTON (14) | 24 | 27 | -7 | 5 | 2 | 4 | 17 | 16 | 2 | 4 | 7 | 11 | 19 | 4-3-3 | D1 |
| 15. ASTON VILLA (13) | 24 | 27 | -8 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 17 | 16 | 2 | 3 | 7 | 9 | 18 | 3-3-4 | L2 |
| 16. WIMBLEDON (15) | 23 | 26 | -5 | 3 | 3 | 6 | 12 | 16 | 3 | 5 | 3 | 10 | 11 | 2-4-4 | D2 |
| 17. CRYSTAL PALACE (17) | 24 | 23 | -13 | 0 | 4 | 7 | 7 | 20 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 14 | 14 | 1-3-6 | L3 |
| 18. TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR (18) | 24 | 23 | -20 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 13 | 15 | 1 | 2 | 9 | 8 | 26 | 3-1-6 | L1 |
| 19. BOLTON WANDERERS (19) | 24 | 22 | -19 | 3 | 7 | 2 | 10 | 12 | 1 | 3 | 8 | 11 | 28 | 2-3-5 | L2 |
| 20. BARNSLEY (20) | 24 | 21 | -39 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 12 | 20 | 2 | 1 | 10 | 8 | 39 | 3-2-5 | L1 |

## ATTACK

| | Goals scored | Avge | Pens | Dead ball | Open play | By head |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Chelsea | 52 | 2.17 | 5 | 7 | 40 | 12 |
| 2. Manchester Utd | 51 | 2.12 | 0 | 7 | 44 | 9 |
| 3. Blackburn | 44 | 1.83 | 1 | 12 | 31 | 6 |
| 4. Arsenal | 42 | 1.83 | 1 | 10 | 31 | 5 |
| 5. Derby | 39 | 1.62 | 5 | 5 | 29 | 5 |
| =. Liverpool | 39 | 1.62 | 3 | 4 | 32 | 3 |
| 7. Sheffield Wed | 37 | 1.54 | 3 | 6 | 28 | 8 |
| 8. West Ham | 36 | 1.50 | 1 | 5 | 30 | 4 |
| 9. Leeds | 34 | 1.42 | 1 | 12 | 21 | 10 |
| 10. Coventry | 28 | 1.17 | 2 | 9 | 17 | 3 |
| =. Everton | 28 | 1.17 | 3 | 7 | 18 | 10 |
| 12. Leicester | 27 | 1.12 | 2 | 12 | 13 | 9 |
| 13. Aston Villa | 26 | 1.08 | 0 | 9 | 17 | 4 |
| =. Southampton | 26 | 1.08 | 1 | 4 | 21 | 3 |
| 15. Newcastle | 25 | 1.04 | 1 | 3 | 21 | 4 |
| 16. Wimbledon | 22 | 0.92 | 1 | 4 | 17 | 6 |
| 17. Bolton | 21 | 0.87 | 2 | 3 | 16 | 4 |
| =. Crystal Palace | 21 | 0.87 | 2 | 2 | 17 | 5 |
| =. Tottenham | 21 | 0.87 | 0 | 6 | 15 | 6 |
| 20. Barnsley | 20 | 0.83 | 2 | 5 | 13 | 5 |

## DEFENCE

| | Goals conceded | Average | Dead ball | Open play | By head | Own goal |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Manchester Utd | 18 | 0.75 | 4 | 12 | 2 | 1 |
| 2. Liverpool | 19 | 0.79 | 6 | 12 | 4 | 1 |
| 3. Leicester | 22 | 0.92 | 4 | 15 | 5 | 1 |
| 4. Blackburn | 24 | 1.00 | 2 | 22 | 2 | 2 |
| 5. Chelsea | 25 | 1.04 | 6 | 18 | 4 | 1 |
| 6. Leeds | 27 | 1.12 | 3 | 21 | 4 | 0 |
| 7. Arsenal | 26 | 1.13 | 2 | 23 | 5 | 0 |
| 8. Wimbledon | 27 | 1.17 | 2 | 24 | 3 | 1 |
| 9. Newcastle | 29 | 1.21 | 9 | 19 | 8 | 1 |
| 10. Derby | 30 | 1.25 | 7 | 20 | 7 | 0 |
| 11. Southampton | 33 | 1.37 | 6 | 25 | 6 | 0 |
| 12. Aston Villa | 34 | 1.42 | 6 | 25 | 9 | 0 |
| =. Coventry | 34 | 1.42 | 5 | 26 | 5 | 0 |
| =. Crystal Palace | 34 | 1.42 | 6 | 27 | 3 | 1 |
| 15. Everton | 35 | 1.46 | 10 | 20 | 10 | 0 |
| =. West Ham | 35 | 1.46 | 9 | 25 | 8 | 2 |
| 17. Bolton | 40 | 1.67 | 8 | 32 | 11 | 0 |
| 18. Tottenham | 41 | 1.71 | 9 | 31 | 4 | 1 |
| 19. Sheffield Wed | 47 | 1.96 | 10 | 36 | 10 | 2 |
| 20. Barnsley | 59 | 2.46 | 11 | 45 | 10 | 0 |

## SCORING TRENDS

| Goals per half | 1st | 2nd |
|---|---|---|
| Arsenal | 21 | 21 |
| Aston Villa | 8 | 18 |
| Barnsley | 11 | 7 |
| Blackburn | 28 | 18 |
| Bolton | 10 | 11 |
| Chelsea | 21 | 31 |
| Coventry | 11 | 17 |
| Crystal Palace | 11 | 10 |
| Derby | 18 | 21 |
| Everton | 13 | 17 |
| Leeds Utd | 17 | 17 |
| Leicester | 10 | 17 |
| Liverpool | 11 | 28 |
| Manchester Utd | 21 | 30 |
| Newcastle | 13 | 12 |
| Sheffield Wed | 16 | 21 |
| Southampton | 11 | 15 |
| Tottenham | 12 | 9 |
| West Ham | 12 | 24 |
| Wimbledon | 8 | 14 |

## CLEAN SHEETS

| | Clean sheet | Failed to score |
|---|---|---|
| Arsenal | 8 | 5 |
| Aston Villa | 5 | 9 |
| Barnsley | 5 | 9 |
| Blackburn | 11 | 5 |
| Bolton | 8 | 8 |
| Chelsea | 9 | 4 |
| Coventry | 6 | 10 |
| Crystal Palace | 5 | 9 |
| Derby | 8 | 8 |
| Everton | 6 | 10 |
| Leeds Utd | 8 | 8 |
| Leicester | 9 | 6 |
| Liverpool | 11 | 4 |
| Manchester Utd | 13 | 5 |
| Newcastle | 6 | 7 |
| Sheffield Wed | 5 | 3 |
| Southampton | 6 | 9 |
| Tottenham | 7 | 11 |
| West Ham | 4 | 6 |
| Wimbledon | 5 | 8 |

## CAUTIONS

| Cards issued | Yellow | Red |
|---|---|---|
| 1. Coventry | 51 | 5 |
| 2. Derby | 54 | 1 |
| 3. Leeds Utd | 51 | 3 |
| 4. Everton | 50 | 3 |
| 5. Arsenal | 50 | 2 |
| 6. C Palace | 49 | 2 |
| 7. Chelsea | 46 | 3 |
| 8. Bolton | 44 | 4 |
| 9. Sheffield Wed | 42 | 3 |
| 10. West Ham | 41 | 2 |
| 11. Newcastle | 40 | 2 |
| 12. Southampton | 41 | 1 |
| 13. Blackburn | 37 | 3 |
| 14. Manchester Utd* | 40 | 0 |
| 15. Barnsley | 38 | 0 |
| 16. Wimbledon | 34 | 1 |
| 17. Liverpool | 33 | 1 |
| =. Tottenham | 33 | 1 |
| 19. Leicester | 30 | 1 |
| 20. Aston Villa | 27 | 1 |

* red card downgraded to yellow

## SCORERS

| Premiership only | Goals |
|---|---|
| Gallacher (Blackburn) | 13 |
| Sutton (Blackburn) | 13 |
| Bergkamp (Arsenal) | 12 |
| Cole (Manchester Utd) | 12 |
| Hartson (West Ham) | 12 |
| Bajano (Derby) | 11 |
| Dublin (Coventry) | 11 |
| Wright (Arsenal) | 10 |
| Davies (Southampton) | 9 |
| Fowler (Liverpool) | 9 |
| Huckerby (Coventry) | 9 |
| Wallace (Leeds) | 9 |
| Blake (Bolton) | 8 |
| Di Canio (Sheffield Wed) | 8 |
| Hasselbaink (Leeds) | 8 |
| McManaman (Liverpool) | 8 |
| Sheringham (Manchester Utd) | 8 |
| Stuntidge (Derby) | 8 |
| Wanchope (Derby) | 8 |

## REFEREES

| | P | Cards issued Yellow | Red |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. M Reed | 12 | 59 | 2 |
| 2. G Willard | 13 | 59 | 4 |
| 3. G Poll | 15 | 60 | 7 |
| 4. U Rennie | 13 | 52 | 1 |
| 5. G Barber | 13 | 49 | 3 |
| 6. D Elleray | 13 | 49 | 2 |
| 7. J Winter | 13 | 48 | 2 |
| 8. P Durkin | 14 | 50 | 3 |
| 9. P Alcock | 12 | 45 | 0 |
| 10. P Jones | 12 | 41 | 2 |
| 11. S Dunn | 10 | 34 | 1 |
| 12. M Riley | 13 | 42 | 2 |
| 13. A Wilkie | 14 | 43 | 2 |
| 14. M Bodenham | 12 | 37 | 0 |
| 15. G Ashby | 13 | 38 | 2 |
| 16. K Burge | 11 | 32 | 1 |
| 17. N Barry | 12 | 34 | 1 |
| 18. D Gallagher | 12 | 30 | 2 |
| 19. S Lodge | 13 | 27 | 2 |

## INTERNET

FA Premiership clubs' official websites

| | |
|---|---|
| Arsenal | www.arsenal.co.uk |
| Aston Villa | www.astonvilla-fc.co.uk |
| Barnsley | www.yorkshire-web.co.uk/bfc/BFC.HTML |
| Blackburn | www.rovers.co.uk |
| Bolton | www.boltonwfc.co.uk |
| Chelsea | www.chelseafc.co.uk |
| Coventry | www.ccfc.co.uk |
| C Palace | www.cpfc.co.uk |
| Derby | www.dcfc.co.uk |
| Everton | evertonfc.merseyworld.com |
| Leeds | www.lufc.co.uk |
| Leicester | www.lcfc.co.uk |
| Liverpool | — |
| Man Utd | www.sky.co.uk/sports/manu |
| Newcastle | www.newcastle-utd.co.uk/nufc |
| Sheffield Wed | www.swfc.co.uk |
| Southampton | www.soton.ac.uk/~saints |
| Tottenham | www.spurs.co.uk |
| West Ham | www.westhamunited.co.uk |
| Wimbledon | — |
| FA Premiership | www.fa-carling.com |

# WEEKEND MATCHES

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated * denotes all-ticket
Pools coupon numbers in brackets
In Premiership fixtures, † denotes sold out otherwise seats available

## TODAY

**FA Carling Premiership**

(1) † Barnsley v Everton
(2) † Blackburn v Tottenham
(3) Coventry v Sheffield Wednesday
(4) † Derby v Aston Villa
(5) *† Leicester v Leeds
(6) † Liverpool v Southampton
(7) † Manchester Utd v Bolton
(8) † Newcastle v West Ham

**Nationwide League**
**First division**

(9) Birmingham v Middlesbrough
(10) Bradford v Charlton
(11) Bury v Port Vale
(12) Huddersfield v Stockport
(13) Norwich v Manchester City
(14) Portsmouth v Nottingham Forest
(15) Queens Park Rangers v Crewe
(16) Reading v Tranmere
(17) Sheffield Utd v Oxford Utd
(18) Stoke v Ipswich
(19) Swindon v West Bromwich
(20) Wolverhampton v Sunderland

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Middlesbrough | 29 | 17 | 7 | 5 | 49 | 25 | 58 |
| Nottm Forest | 29 | 17 | 6 | 6 | 47 | 28 | 57 |
| Charlton | 29 | 15 | 7 | 7 | 53 | 37 | 52 |
| Sunderland | 28 | 15 | 7 | 6 | 48 | 28 | 52 |
| Sheffield Utd | 29 | 13 | 12 | 4 | 45 | 31 | 51 |
| Wolverhampton | 29 | 14 | 6 | 9 | 40 | 29 | 48 |
| West Bromwich | 29 | 13 | 6 | 10 | 30 | 28 | 45 |
| Stockport | 29 | 13 | 5 | 11 | 48 | 41 | 44 |
| Birmingham | 29 | 11 | 10 | 8 | 36 | 22 | 43 |
| Swindon | 30 | 12 | 7 | 11 | 34 | 41 | 43 |
| Bradford | 30 | 10 | 11 | 9 | 32 | 32 | 41 |
| Norwich | 29 | 11 | 6 | 12 | 29 | 41 | 39 |
| Ipswich | 28 | 9 | 11 | 8 | 35 | 30 | 38 |
| Crewe | 29 | 11 | 4 | 14 | 35 | 42 | 37 |
| Reading | 29 | 9 | 9 | 11 | 30 | 42 | 36 |
| Oxford Utd | 29 | 9 | 6 | 14 | 36 | 43 | 33 |
| QPR | 29 | 8 | 9 | 12 | 30 | 43 | 33 |
| Stoke | 29 | 8 | 8 | 13 | 30 | 44 | 32 |
| Huddersfield | 29 | 7 | 9 | 13 | 31 | 41 | 30 |
| Man City | 29 | 7 | 8 | 14 | 33 | 34 | 29 |
| Port Vale | 29 | 8 | 5 | 16 | 33 | 45 | 29 |
| Tranmere | 28 | 6 | 9 | 13 | 28 | 37 | 27 |
| Bury | 29 | 4 | 14 | 11 | 25 | 38 | 26 |
| Portsmouth | 28 | 6 | 6 | 16 | 31 | 46 | 24 |

**Second division**

(21) Bournemouth v Bristol City
(22) Bristol Rovers v Chesterfield
(23) Fulham v Southend
(24) Millwall v Grimsby
(25) Oldham v Blackpool
(26) Plymouth v Carlisle
(27) Preston v Burnley
(28) Wigan v Northampton
(29) Wrexham v Luton
(30) Wycombe v Brentford
(31) York v Walsall

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Watford | 29 | 19 | 7 | 3 | 45 | 20 | 64 |
| Bristol City | 30 | 18 | 7 | 5 | 54 | 24 | 61 |
| Oldham | 29 | 11 | 12 | 6 | 43 | 31 | 45 |
| Fulham | 29 | 12 | 9 | 8 | 38 | 28 | 45 |
| Bristol Rovers | 29 | 12 | 8 | 9 | 42 | 43 | 44 |
| Northampton | 29 | 11 | 11 | 7 | 32 | 25 | 44 |
| Grimsby | 27 | 11 | 9 | 7 | 37 | 24 | 42 |
| Chesterfield | 30 | 9 | 14 | 7 | 27 | 24 | 41 |
| Bournemouth | 29 | 10 | 10 | 9 | 36 | 31 | 40 |
| Gillingham | 28 | 10 | 9 | 10 | 36 | 39 | 39 |
| Millwall | 28 | 11 | 6 | 11 | 33 | 35 | 39 |
| York | 29 | 9 | 11 | 9 | 35 | 38 | 38 |
| Wrexham | 29 | 9 | 11 | 9 | 33 | 34 | 38 |
| Blackpool | 30 | 10 | 7 | 13 | 38 | 48 | 37 |
| Walsall | 27 | 10 | 7 | 10 | 31 | 32 | 37 |
| Wigan | 28 | 10 | 5 | 13 | 42 | 44 | 35 |
| Wycombe | 29 | 8 | 11 | 10 | 35 | 39 | 35 |
| Preston | 29 | 9 | 7 | 13 | 34 | 34 | 34 |
| Luton | 29 | 8 | 8 | 13 | 35 | 46 | 32 |
| Carlisle | 29 | 8 | 6 | 15 | 38 | 46 | 30 |
| Burnley | 29 | 7 | 9 | 13 | 33 | 39 | 30 |
| Brentford | 30 | 7 | 9 | 14 | 32 | 51 | 30 |
| Plymouth | 29 | 6 | 10 | 13 | 35 | 45 | 28 |
| Southend | 30 | 7 | 7 | 16 | 30 | 55 | 28 |

**Third division**

(32) Brighton v Torquay
(33) Cambridge Utd v Doncaster
(34) Cardiff v Lincoln
(35) Chester v Mansfield
(36) * Hartlepool v Darlington
(37) Hull v Rochdale
(38) Macclesfield v Scarborough
(39) Notts County v Shrewsbury
(—) Rotherham v Exeter
(—) Scunthorpe v Barnet

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Notts County | 30 | 19 | 8 | 3 | 53 | 29 | 65 |
| † Peterborough | 29 | 14 | 10 | 5 | 53 | 29 | 52 |
| Barnet | 30 | 15 | 7 | 8 | 44 | 32 | 52 |
| Scarborough | 30 | 14 | 7 | 9 | 49 | 42 | 49 |
| Macclesfield | 30 | 13 | 10 | 7 | 42 | 31 | 49 |
| Chester | 30 | 14 | 6 | 10 | 42 | 35 | 48 |
| Rotherham | 30 | 12 | 11 | 7 | 48 | 39 | 47 |
| Torquay | 30 | 13 | 8 | 9 | 42 | 38 | 47 |
| Exeter | 30 | 11 | 13 | 6 | 46 | 34 | 46 |
| Lincoln | 29 | 12 | 10 | 7 | 34 | 35 | 46 |
| † L Orient | 29 | 12 | 8 | 9 | 40 | 26 | 44 |
| Hartlepool | 30 | 9 | 15 | 6 | 40 | 33 | 42 |
| † Colchester | 30 | 11 | 8 | 11 | 48 | 46 | 41 |
| Scunthorpe | 29 | 11 | 6 | 12 | 34 | 38 | 39 |
| Mansfield | 29 | 9 | 10 | 10 | 38 | 33 | 37 |
| Darlington | 29 | 9 | 8 | 12 | 38 | 47 | 35 |
| Cardiff | 29 | 8 | 5 | 16 | 7 | 26 | 29 |
| 34 | Camb Utd | 30 | 7 | 12 | 11 | 40 | 43 | 33 |
| Shrewsbury | 29 | 8 | 8 | 12 | 38 | 43 | 32 |
| * Swansea | 30 | 9 | 5 | 16 | 31 | 42 | 32 |
| Rochdale | 30 | 9 | 3 | 18 | 32 | 41 | 30 |
| Hull | 30 | 7 | 5 | 18 | 40 | 54 | 26 |
| Brighton | 30 | 4 | 10 | 16 | 24 | 42 | 22 |
| Doncaster | 29 | 2 | 6 | 21 | 19 | 78 | 12 |

* not including last night's matches

**Vaudhall Conference**

(—) Farnborough v Leek
(—) Hednesford v Cheltenham
(—) Kettering v Gateshead
(—) Morecambe v Woking
(—) Rushden and Diamonds v Halifax
(—) Slough v Hereford
(—) Southport v Hayes
(—) Stalybridge v Dover (5 0)
(—) Stevenage v Yeovil
(—) Telford v Kidderminster
(—) Welling v Northwich

**Bell's Scottish League**
*Premier division*

(40) Aberdeen v Hibernian
(41) Dundee Utd v Motherwell
(42) Kilmarnock v St Johnstone
(43) Rangers v Dunfermline

**First division**

(44) Airdrie v Hamilton
(45) Falkirk v Greenock Morton
(46) Raith v Partick
(47) St Mirren v Ayr
(48) Stirling v Dundee

**Second division**

(49) Brechin v East Fife
(—) Inverness CT v Clydebank
(—) Livingston v Forfar
(—) Queen of South v Clyde
(—) Stranraer v Stenhousemuir

**Third division**

(—) Albion v East Stirling (2 0)
(—) Alloa v Queen's Park
(—) Cowdenbeath v Arbroath
(—) Dumbarton v Ross County
(—) Montrose v Berwick

DR MARTENS LEAGUE: Premier division: Ashtonstone v Gresley; Burton Albion v St Leonards; Cheltenham v Cambridge City; Dorchester v King's Lynn; Gloucester v Forest Green; Halesowen v Rothwell; Hastings v Salisbury; Stamford v Nuneaton; Tamworth v Merthyr; Worcester City v Ashford Southern division: Cinderford v Trowbridge; Cirencester Town v Fisher London; Clevedon v Fleet T; Erith and Belvedere v Newport AFC; Fareham v Dartford; Margate v Havant; Newport (IoW) v Chelmsford; Tonbridge Angels v Yate; Waterlooville v Baldock; Weston-super-Mare v Bashley; Witney v Weymouth. Midland division: Bedworth v Paget R; Blakenall v Raunds T; Grantham v Brackley Town; Hinckley United v Shepshed D; RC Warwick v Bilston; Redditch v Ilkeston; Solihull Boro v Sutton Coldfield Town; Stafford v Corby; Wisbech Town v Stourbridge

## TOMORROW

**FA Carling Premiership**

† Arsenal v Chelsea (4 0)

**Nationwide League**
**Second division**

Watford v Gillingham (1 0)

**Bell's Scottish League**
**Premier division**

Hearts v Celtic

FAI HARP LAGER CUP: Second round: Cork v Derry (12 0), UCD v Home Farm (3 1s); Second-round replay: Dundalk v Shelbourne (3 1s)

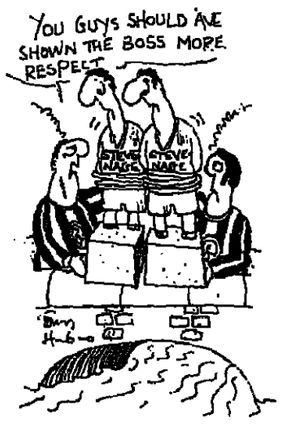
FA WOMEN'S PREMIER LEAGUE: National division: Doncaster v Berkhamsted (2 0); Everton v Millwall (12 30); Wembley v Liverpool (2 0).

FA WOMEN'S LEAGUE: Northern division: Arnold v Gainswood St Helens; Blyth Spartans v Aston Villa; Wolverhampton v Sheffield Wednesday. Southern division: Brighton and Hove v Southampton; Langford v Leyton Orient; Whitehawk v Barry; Wimbledon v Rushden and Diamonds

## COVERAGE

TELEVISION: Today: BBC1: Football Focus, from 12.20pm; Match of the Day (featuring extended highlights of Derby County v Aston Villa, Blackburn Rovers v Tottenham Hotspur and Newcastle United v West Ham United), from 10.45pm (repeated tomorrow at 6.30am). Sky Sports 1: Spanish league (live), from 7pm. Tomorrow: Channel 4: Football Italia (live), from 1.15pm. Sky Sports 1: FA Carling Premiership, Arsenal v Chelsea (live), from 3pm. Sky Sports 2: Soccer Extra, from 8am. Nationwide League second division, Watford v Gillingham (live), from 12pm

RADIO: Today: BBC Radio 5 Live: Coverage of Premiership, Manchester United v Bolton Wanderers, in Sport on Five, from 1pm. Tomorrow: BBC Radio 5 Live: Coverage of Watford v Gillingham and Arsenal v Chelsea in Sunday Sport, from 1pm.

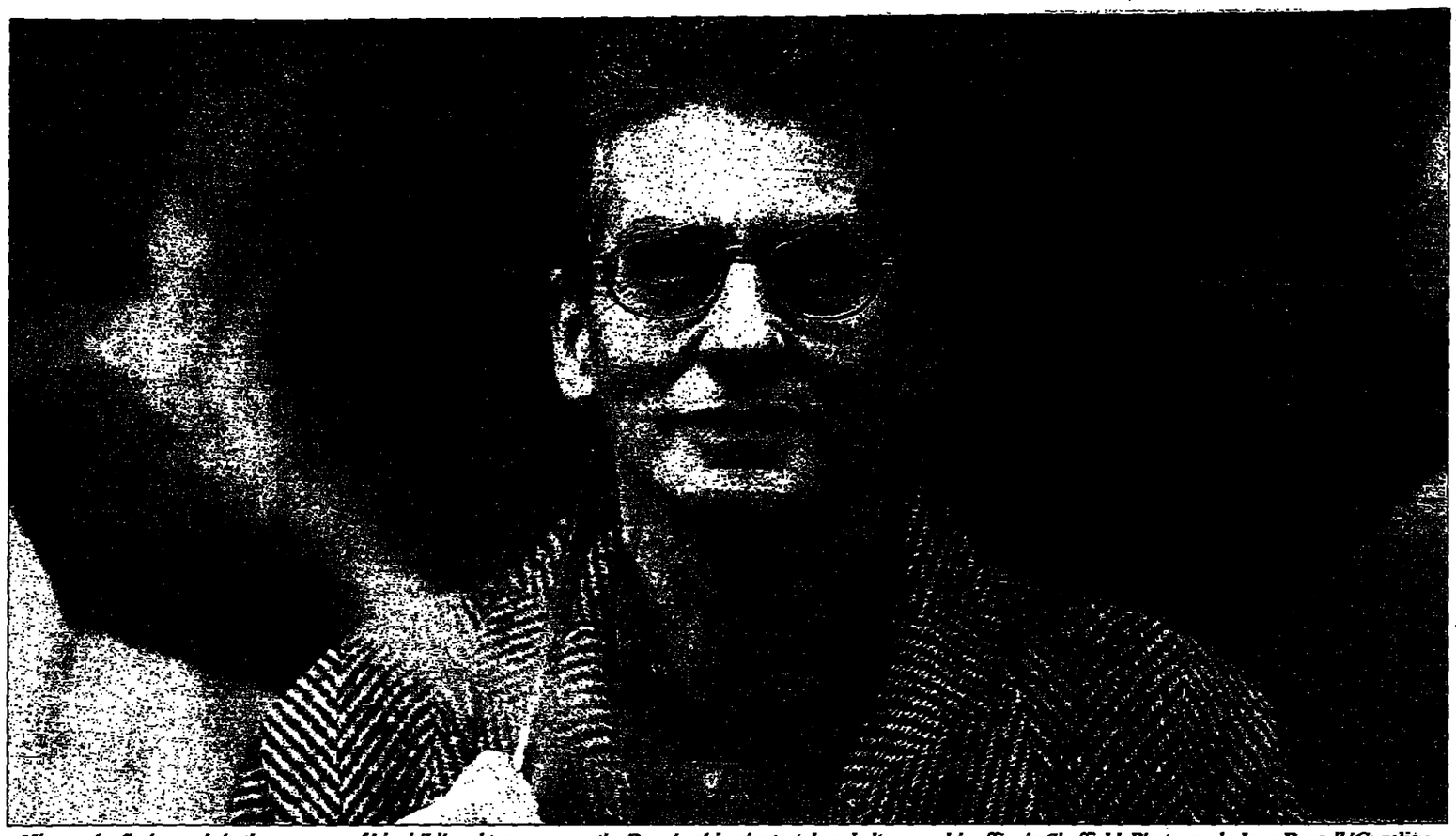



**Statistics compiled by Julian Desborough**

University (at Priory Leisure Centre, Orpington) (6.30), Cardiff Devils v Nottingham Panthers | Morley v Nottingham | Hearts

FOOTBALL SATURDAY

**Mark Hodkinson** meets Barry Hines, author and footballing man



Hines, who finds magic in the presence of his childhood team among the Premiership giants, takes shelter near his office in Sheffield. Photograph: Joan Russell/Guzelian

# Kes, sweet bird of Barnsley youth

The wind in the mud: the PE teacher with thighs like beer barrels and a voice like bloody hell; the scrawny, pencil-thin kids using their shirt cuffs as handkerchiefs; goose pimples and chattering teeth; we've all been there.

It was August in Barnsley and the sun should have been warming their backs, but a chill wind chuckled vindictively across the playing-fields of St Helen's Secondary Modern School. The film crew were constantly offering their extras — local schoolchildren — hot drinks, but in their hearts they knew that every shiver, grimace and bored expression were the currency of their film.

The schoolboy footballers in *Kes* were playing for England, the picture of England drawn by Barry Hines in his book *A Kestrel for a Knave*, on which the film was based. Mr Sugden, the PE teacher played unforgettably by the late Brian Glover, decreed that it was Manchester United versus Spurs in the fifth-round Cup tie, but it was really a far more important encounter. It was the disillusioned versus the disadvantaged, the bully versus the bullied. What chance had they when Sugden was both Bobby Charlton ("I'm scheming this morning, all over the field") and the referee?

In the course of the most infamous games lesson in British history, Hines used football as the consummate metaphor of life. Billy Casper, the book's protagonist, is a dreamy, downtrodden waif in borrowed shorts. He is made the scapegoat when "Manchester United" lose 4-3. Afterwards, he is imprisoned in the showers and Sugden slyly moves the temperature gauge to his lowest setting. "He'll get pneumonia," Casper's classmates plead. "I don't care what he gets," Sugden snaps. Suddenly, Casper appears at the top of the partition wall. He has climbed free and is greeted by uproarious laughter; an away win for the disadvantaged.

Football has seldom transferred well onto the page or screen. Hines is one of a mere handful of writers with an innate ability to present the sport properly without the schmaltz. To him, football is the reflection of the lives from which it offers a fleeting respite. It is a slog, against cheats and bullies, kickers and cloggers, and the last man standing tall in the mud can claim a victory of sorts.

Hines was introduced to the game by his grandfather, John Hines, a gifted local footballer. While he was growing up in the mining village of Hoyland Common, Barnsley, and earning praise for his own footballing ability, Hines would be told constantly: "Tha'll never be as good as tha grandfather." He applied himself better than his grandfather, who was, according to Hines, "a bit of a wide boy" and played for the junior teams of both Barnsley and Wolverhampton Wanderers, before being selected to play for England grammar schools against Scotland in 1957.

**LIFE AT THE TOP**

While studying physical education at Loughborough Training College, Hines wrote the draft of his first novel, *The Blinder*. Brian Glanville had earlier published *The Rise of Gerry Logan*, widely regarded as the first football novel. Before these, there had been two types of football books — works of fiction that were fanciful and superficial and others on a theme of "*My Life in Football*", whereby old pros would bolster their pension plan by putting their names to their bloodless autobiography. The latter type still thrives today; the former has remained unchanged, though the advances have increased significantly.

*The Blinder*, published in 1966 when Hines was 27, takes the reader inside the dressing-room, where the clank-clanking of studs resonates and the language is as strong as the tackles out on the pitch. Word filtered through to Hines several years ago that a former professional had read the book and commented: "Whoever wrote that book knows about football." It is a compliment he holds dear. "I see the book now as crude, but it has a lot of vitality. When you are young and full of it, that is the type of book you write," he said.

He became absorbed into the culture of football by both playing the game and watching Barnsley. "There used to be four of us who went to Oakwell. We'd get there about an hour and a half before the kick-off. As soon as they opened the turnstiles we would rush down the terraces to stand directly behind the goal. I don't know why we always ran, because we'd be the only ones in there anyway at that time."

During one match he noticed the football stud near the perimeter fence, priceless treasure to a smitten youngster. He hurried over and scooped up the stud. "I got home and my dad said 'what have you got that for?' I said it might have belonged to a Barnsley player, maybe Skinner Normanton or Jimmy Baxter, but he just didn't understand. I remember being upset by his response."

Hines writes his books and television dramas in a tiny office on the campus of Sheffield Hallam University, where he is an honorary Fellow. A line of postcards, most of them miniatures of famous paintings, adorn a shelf; otherwise it is spartan, save for a kettle designed to hold enough water to fill just one cup. He does not have a word processor and writes his material in pen before passing it on to be typed. He volunteers that he does not drive, nor own a video recorder. "It's madness, I know. We've got a telly, but we've had that for about 20 years and it's only a small one," he said.

He is lithe and his movements quick and precise. When the words run out he springs to his chair. "And he would turn his back like this ..." he said. For a moment or so, he is Tony Currie, and then Denis Law, dancing beyond imaginary defenders in this small, dark room. He then sits back down and reflects for a few seconds, aware once more of his surroundings. His personality is very much like his writing — thoughtful but matter-of-fact, unadorned, effervescent and, as in his books, he can sometimes seem to drift away, suspended in his own thoughts.

A smile is imprinted across his face when he recalls Barnsley's promotion to the FA Carling Premiership. In his work, he invokes the occasional dash of other-worldly magic as a counter point to the relentless itchy realism. Barnsley in the top division still holds this sense of magic for Hines, nearly ten months after promotion was secured. "It is absolutely wondrous," he said. "I never imagined them in the top division. I can remember when they were in the old fourth."

He is not a frequent visitor to Oakwell these days and — better whisper this in Barnsley — often lends his support to Sheffield United. In mitigation, he proffers that he now lives in Sheffield and has a son who is a Blades fanatic. "I saw Barnsley at Bramall Lane a few years ago and it was a strange experience. They were wearing blue and it didn't seem too bad, but when I see Barnsley in red I feel all the old pride coming back. It's like first love, isn't it?"

While Barnsley found themselves adopted by a clutch of celebrities at the end of last season, Hines preferred to court the shadows. "I would have felt like a carpet-bagger after all this time," he said. For him, football is too important, too enmeshed in people's lives for half-measures. While his club loyalties are divided, the football man within him remains steadfastly authentic.



David Bradley, left, Colin Welland and the eponymous bird in the film, *Kes*, directed by Ken Loach and based on *A Kestrel for a Knave*, written by Hines and still one of the best football books

# Recalling the shroud that descended upon Turin

The Superga hillside evokes memories of tragedy that are as powerful for Italians as those of Munich for Britons

**BRIAN GLANVILLE**



At four minutes past three this afternoon at Old Trafford, the crowd awaiting the match between Manchester United and Bolton Wanderers will fall silent. They will be remembering the horrific air crash at Munich airport 40 years ago that took the lives of so many fine young players of a fine United team yet to reach its peak.

But the Munich disaster was not the first of its kind. On May 4, 1949, on the hillside of Superga, above Turin, every member of the famous Torino team perished when their aeroplane crashed into the wall of a church on the way back from a charity game in Lisbon.

It was a disaster that stunned not only Turin, but the whole of the peninsula. People wept in the streets. Vittorio Pozzo, the "Grand Old Man" of Italian football, winner of two World Cups and the founder of the club, called it "the greatest tragedy ever to have stricken football anywhere in the world, wherever it is played". At that moment, it was. Pozzo had the gruesome and appalling task of identifying the bodies of the players that he had known so well, so many of whom had played for Italy under his command.

"In the buttonhole of a piece of jacket hanging from a tree up there at Superga," he wrote, "was an international team badge, one of those gold ones, with the new design, which I had still been giving out the previous year, telling them to hold them dear and revere them, for there were little more than 200 people in Italy who could wear them.

"Tenacious was the hold that badge exerted, tenacious unto death, when everything else had gone, blown from the players' bodies, shoes first, then watches, jackets, buttons. Precisely to whom the jacket and that badge belong, no one knew. To one of the players who had worn the blue jersey, and who lay there now, battered to pieces, or reduced virtually to pulp."

Torino had won the past four Italian championships and were well on the way to winning a fifth. The Italian Federation quickly conferred a fifth title on them, decreeing that the last four league matches would be played by Torino's youth team against equivalent opposition.

Torino were on their way back from a foreign fixture when bad weather and pilot error conspired in their doom. Visibility was poor, and, although the airport was in sight, the plane crashed into the wall of the church that stood above the city at Superga. There were no survivors. 18 players died. So did an Englishman, Leslie Liebesley, once a Sheffield United goalkeeper, by then a coach, described by Pozzo as "a clean man".

In Italy's last international before the crash, when Spain were beaten 3-1 in Madrid, half a dozen of Torino's players were involved and the elegant, stylish left back, Virgilio Maroso, would certainly have played, had he been fit.

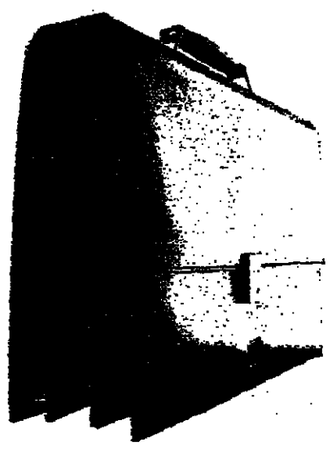
That Torino team, and Italy, had a formidable pair of 30-year-old inside forwards in Ezio Loik and Valentino Mazzola, the captain, both of whom had made their names and first been capped when playing for Venice. The exigencies of the war meant that the powerful, adroit Mazzola won only a dozen Italy caps. His son, Sandro, went on to win 70.

Sandro was 7 when his father died, leaving a widow to bring up two small sons. The Torino club did little for the family and lived to regret it. It was Internazionale that took the Mazzolas under its wing and Inter with whom Sandro would become such a star.

Though Juventus had previously, and would subsequently, overshadow them, Torino was the *squadra del cuore*, the team of the heart, of Turin. This was chiefly because most workers there were employed one way or another by the Fiat organisation, controlled by the Agnelli family, who were the proud patrons of Juventus. Supporting Torino, in its compact Filadelfia Stadium, was therefore something of a challenge to the bosses.

On the evening of May 4, the Italian Chamber of Deputies and the Senate suspended their sittings in homage to the stricken team. The next day, 10,000 cars made a pilgrimage to Superga.

Next year, Torino is planning extensive and elaborate ceremonies to mark the fiftieth anniversary of the crash. "They should be buried side by side," Pozzo wrote of the dead, "so that they can remain together in the future as they have lived together, won fame together and died together. So that they continue to form a team in the afterlife, too."

ALFRED DUNHILL
LONDON

THE NEW SPRING/SUMMER 1998 MENSWEAR COLLECTION AVAILABLE AT ALFRED DUNHILL, 48 JERMYN STREET SW1.

THE NEW CITYSCAPE LEATHER COLLECTION AVAILABLE AT ALFRED DUNHILL, 48 JERMYN STREET SW1, 5 ROYAL EXCHANGE EC3 AND HARRODS.

FOR STOCKIST DETAILS TELEPHONE CUSTOMER SERVICES ON 0171 290 8600.



SNOOKER

# Doherty's doubts erased by victory

By Phil Yates

KEN DOHERTY, who has found the responsibilities of world champion a heavy burden to bear this season, hinted at an imminent reversal of fortunes when he reached the semi-finals of the Benson and Hedges Masters at Wembley Conference Centre yesterday.

By beating James Wattana 6-1, Doherty did more than secure a semi-final against Nigel Bond or Stephen Hendry tonight. While not the most powerful performance he has produced, it was sufficient to remove growing self-doubt from his mind.

"I don't feel expectation coming from other people," Doherty said. "The pressure is all self-imposed, but that doesn't make it any easier to cope with." Concern over his form was briefly allayed when he won the Malta Grand Prix in November and figured in the semi-finals of the German Open the next month.

That apart, though, Doherty has struggled since ending Hendry's 29-match unbeaten sequence at the Crucible last April to become holder of the game's premier title. Often, since then, that status has been a poisoned chalice. "Being world champion is the best thing that's happened to me, but it does create pressure," Doherty said. "You've just got to work through it and keep plugging away."

Wattana should have won the opening two frames but lost both. Leading 40-22 in the first, he missed an elementary red using the rest. Doherty put together a 53 clearance and, after laying an effective snooker late in the second, cleared the last red to pink.

Raking pots on brown and blue gave Wattana the third but Doherty re-established a two-frame cushion with a mid-frame run of 39 and moved into a 4-1 lead by claiming the fifth with another last red-to-pink clearance.

Runs of 30 and 44, not to mention an outrageous fluke, enabled Doherty to account for the sixth and when Wattana, holding a 38-2 advantage in the seventh, jawed a red. Doherty constructed a 65 break to complete a welcome success.

WINTER OLYMPICS: SPIRIT OF SPORT PROVIDES COUNTERPOINT TO TENSION IN THE GULF

# Nagano offers whiff of fresh air

From Rob Hughes
Chief Sports Writer
in Nagano

As dawn breaks over Nagano, giving the snow-capped peak of the Happo'one mountain a pink illumination, we are ready now for a new chapter in the Olympic ideals. There is a sense of excitement, a feeling almost that these Games are more than a sequence of races, that they come at a time important to the human race.

On high, Bernard Russi, the winner of the downhill in Sapporo in 1972 and the designer who has fought the elements to prepare a course here, declares himself satisfied that the 3,280-metre descent on the eastern slope of this starkly impressive mountain is worthy of challenging the best a man can ski. Russi hears the forecast predict that the idyllic blue sky, the relative stillness, of the past few days could be roughed up by a capricious wind and possibly an untimely deluge of fresh snow come the men's downhill tomorrow.

Russi is not God. He designs downhill tracks the way Jack Nicklaus designs golf courses and then hopes for the best. He commands willing Japanese troops who pack down the snow with their boots, but his influence now becomes peripheral.

Down below the mountains, which encircle Nagano like a necklace, the city is unprepossessing, slightly nondescript. Yet it becomes a little more beautiful with each passing day as the helpers — the volunteers without whom these increasingly gargantuan Games would not go on — find ways out of the maze of confusion wrought by so many travel-weary visitors.

These unsung people, young and old, sometimes calm the furrowed brow in the nick of time, sparing self-important and impatient visitors from making fools of themselves. They are winning with their disarming giggles and their evident pleasure at taking part. We also learn that the schoolchildren, rather than preparing for chauvinism, are being groomed to adopt and adapt their support to various visiting nations.

You might think this quaintly unimportant until you hear in this same city the calls of the Olympic president and the United Nations general secretary to observe the "Olympic Truce" enshrined in the Games. Idealism may not stop military conflict in the Gulf, but Juan Antonio Samaranch and Kofi Annan have not shrunk from linking their solemn plea to the governments of Iraq, Britain and the United States.

Sport, not war, is a hollow notion, but it is mischievous to call it an irrelevance. There are 2,450 competitors here, the vast majority of whom know they are not medal prospects and not about to become millionaires. They go to the limits in search of competitive fulfilment and, in the evenings, when the sun goes down and the temperatures sink below -6C, there is heat in the Olympic village where, apparently, Romanians are the leading disco dancers.

As many of us made our way up the laborious incline from Tokyo to the refreshing air around Nagano, we entered amazing tunnels blasted through the mountains to link this area to the more advanced areas of Japan. The Games are not the sole reason for spending $10 billion on roads and bullet trains, but they are the main catalyst.

As we were driven through the darkness of the tunnels, into the clearness of a bright day, it seemed not at all pretentious to feel uplifted, again, by sport and its ability to cross the boundaries of man. And as if to prove none of us is invulnerable, Takanohana, the grand champion of Japan's most revered sport, was feeling under the weather. He has bronchitis, another celebrated wrestler, Yokozuna Akebono, was preparing to strip and perform the ceremonial rites.

However, because he is indomitable, because the honour is a pinnacle in his life, Takanohana was trying to the last to shrug off the fever and defy medical advice to be a part of the eighteenth Winter Olympic Games.

If it isn't trivial to him, who is big enough to argue?



TOR RICHARDSON

Danile Franck, a snowboarder representing Norway, takes to the air during his practice session yesterday

## NAGANO DETAILS

*All times GMT*

TODAY: 02.00: Opening ceremony. 07.00: Men's Ice hockey: Italy v Kazakhstan; Australia v Slovakia. 11.00: Germany v Japan; France v Belarus.
TELEVISION: BBC 1: 01.55-04.00, 18.25-17.15. Eurosport: 02.00-02.00.

TOMORROW: *Midnight:* Nordic skiing women's 15km classic. 00.30: Freestyle skiing preliminary moguls. 00.30 and 04.00: *Snowboard men's giant slalom.* 01.15: Alpine skiing men's downhill. 03.00: women's ice hockey: Sweden v Finland. 07.00: Canada v Japan. 11.00: China v US. 05.00: *men's ice hockey:* Austria v Kazakhstan. 09.00: Slovakia v Italy. 05.00: Luge men's solo. 06.00: Speed skating men's 5,000m. 11.00: Figure skating pairs short programme.
TELEVISION: BBC 1: 01.00-03.00 (Olympic Grandstand). 23.50-03.00 (Olympic Grandstand). BBC 2: 18.30-18.05 (Sunday Grandstand). Eurosport: 02.00-02.00.

MONDAY: Midnight: Nordic skiing men's 30km classic. Midnight-10.00: men's and women's preliminary rounds curling. 00.30 and 04.00: *Snowboard women's giant slalom.* 01.15: Alpine skiing men's combined downhill. 03.00: Women's ice hockey: Finland v Japan. 07.00: US v Sweden. 11.00: Canada v China. 04.00: Biathlon women's 15km. 05.00: men's ice hockey: Germany v Belarus. 09.00: Japan v France. 05.00: Luge men's solo. 07.30: Speed skating men's 500m.
TELEVISION: BBC 2: 07.45-08.45 (Olympic Grandstand). Eurosport: 02.00-02.00

## SPORT IN BRIEF

### Zimbabwe unable to cope with O'Connor

■ **CRICKET:** Shayne O'Connor capitalised on the shortcomings of the Zimbabwe batsmen with career-best figures of five for 39 as New Zealand won the one-day international at the Basin Reserve, Wellington, yesterday by eight wickets. After a wretched start — their first four wickets fell for 23 — Zimbabwe could manage only 139 in 49 overs. Chris Harris took his hundredth wicket in one-day internationals when he caught and bowled Guy Whittall for 31.

"We had an absolute shocker," David Houghton, the Zimbabwe coach, confessed after New Zealand had knocked off the runs, Nathan Astle and Adam Parore entertaining a crowd of 11,000 with a brisk partnership of 103.

### Injury forces out Knowles

■ **BADMINTON:** Peter Knowles, who withdrew from the English national championships last weekend because of injury, also pulled out of the defence of his British Grand Slam title at Kirkham, Lancashire, yesterday. Knowles, who has torn ligaments in his left leg and a twisted right ankle, hopes he will be fit in time for England's campaign in the world team championships that begin on Monday week. Julia Mann has also pulled out of the British Grand Slam, but she too expects that her injury, to her back, will have cleared up before the world team event.

### Egham ease through

■ **BOWLS:** Egham, who won the Yetton Trophy in 1995 and 1996 and field two international skips in Doreen Hankin and Mavis Steele, are in pursuit of the women's national inter-club championship again after gaining a comfortable 82-61 victory over Dartford Stone Lodge, the 1993 champions, to secure a place in the quarter-finals. Also through after an exciting contest are Nottingham, who fought back from a 22-shot deficit at the halfway stage to defeat the City of Ely 75-74 in 21 ends.

### Richardson run halted

■ **TENNIS:** Andrew Richardson, the British No 3, was beaten 7-6, 4-6, 6-3 by Marzio Martelli, of Italy, in the quarter-finals of the ATP Challenger in Lippstadt, Germany, yesterday. Richardson, 23, defeated at the same stage last year, hopes that his two previous victories this week will help to improve his present world ranking of No 152.

☐ Steffi Graf will make her long-awaited return from a knee injury in the Open Gaz de France event in Paris next week, organisers said yesterday.

### Ardingly earn final say

■ **FOOTBALL:** The final of the Boodle and Dunthorne Cup, between Ardingly College and Bolton School, will be played at Northampton Town FC on Tuesday, April 10 (6.30pm). Ardingly, who lost in the final of this independent schools competition in 1994 and 1995, beat QEGS, Blackburn, 4-2 in the semi-finals. Bolton, who were runners-up last year to Lancing, reached the final again this season by defeating Repton 4-3.

### Male starts as favourite

■ **RACKETS:** James Male, the world champion and No 1 seed, is the favourite to win the Lacoste British Open singles, which start at Queen's Club today. Among those expected to challenge him for the title are Willie Boone, winner of the tournament last year, and Neil Smith, a New York-based professional who won the professional singles title last week.

## FOR THE RECORD

### BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Toronto 101 Dallas 93; Charlotte 108 Vancouver 93; Atlanta 108 Cleveland 94; Detroit 104 Houston 82; New Jersey 108 Phoenix 94; Orlando 93 Washington 83; Miami 91 Milwaukee 87.
MEN'S EUROLEAGUE: Group E: Maccabi Tel Aviv 87 Turk Telecom 76. Group F: PAOK Salonika 61 CSKA Moscow 58; Estudiantes 68 Real Madrid 65; Benetton Treviso 95 Limoges 70. Group G: Pau-Orthez 94 Alba Berlin 75; Barcelona 84 Olimpia Ljubljana 65; Kinder Bologna 69 Paris St Germain 52. Group H: Cibona Zagreb 84 Partizan Belgrade 68.

### BOWLS

MERTHYR TYDFIL: Welsh women's indoor championships: Semi-finals: Singles: J Willis (Swansea) bt S King (Radnorshire) 21-19; J Davies (Dyfed) bt A Pike (Merthyr Tydfil) 21-7. Pairs: J Davies and B Morgan (Radnorshire) bt E Harries and M Williams (Dinefwr) 26-8, B Morgan and L Davies (Port Talbot) bt M Bosher and G Miles (Newport) 23-22 (after extra end). Triples: Radnorshire (D Rowlands) bt Swansea (L Evans) 19-18, Dyfed (J Thornton) bt Cardiff (J Ackland) 22-21. Fours: Radnorshire (B Morgan) bt Llanelli (A Davies) 35-10, Dyfed (J Davies) bt Merthyr Tydfil (P Griffiths) 29-21.

### CRESTA RUN

ST MORITZ: Hans Badrutt Cup: 1, Lord Wroltesley (GB) 1min 35.42sec; 2, J Sunley (GB) 1.37.02; 3, L Marenzi (US) 1.37.74; 4, G Pisch (Switz) 1.37.75; 5, C Tessdorpf (Ger) 1.38.31; 6, B Saiger (Switz) 1.41.48.

### CRICKET

**Second one-day international match**

**New Zealand v Zimbabwe**

*BASIN RESERVE, WELLINGTON (New Zealand won toss):* New Zealand beat Zimbabwe by eight wickets

ZIMBABWE

| | |
|---|---|
| G W Flower c and b Doull | 11 |
| C B Wishart c Astle b O'Connor | 9 |
| M W Goodwin c Fleming b O'Connor | 3 |
| †A Flower c McMillan b Cairns | 0 |
| *A D R Campbell c Harris b O'Connor | 23 |
| G J Whittall c and b Harris | 31 |
| D P Viljoen c Parore b Doull | 36 |
| P A Strang b Nash | 6 |
| H H Streak c Parore b O'Connor | 10 |
| J A Rennie b O'Connor | 5 |
| A R Whittall not out | 1 |
| Extras (b 4, w 5, nb 1) | 10 |
| Total (49 overs) | 138 |

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-1, 2-6, 3-7, 4-23, 5-48, 6-114, 7-114, 8-131, 9-133.

BOWLING: O'Connor 10-0-39-5; Cairns 7-2-10-1; Nash 7-1-14-1; Doull 10-1-26-2; Astle 5-1-16-0; Harris 10-2-29-1.

NEW ZEALAND

| | |
|---|---|
| L G Howell c Wishart b Streak | 7 |
| N J Astle run out | 67 |
| †A C Parore not out | 38 |
| *S P Fleming not out | 17 |
| Extras (b 2, lb 4, w 5, nb 1) | 12 |
| Total (2 wkts, 28.2 overs) | 139 |

C D McMillan, C L Cairns, C Z Harris, D J Nash, D L Vettori, S B Doull and S B O'Connor did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-18, 2-121.

BOWLING: Streak 7-0-20-1; Rennie 5-0-27-0; Strang 6-0-30-0; A Whittall 5-0-40-0; G Whittall 5.2-1-16-0.

New Zealand lead the five-match series 2-0.

Man of the match: S B O'Connor.

*Umpires:* C E King and E A Watkin.

SHEFFIELD SHIELD: Melbourne (final day of four): Victoria 391-9 dec and 247-8 dec (D Jones 70, B Hodge 57); Western Australia 324-7 and 229 (J Davidson 5-84) Victoria win by 82 runs. Sydney (third day of four): Tasmania 202 and 347 (R Tucker 99, D Boon 64, D Marsh 50; D Freedman 7-106); New South Wales 200 (M Taylor 86; D Marsh 7-57) and 67-1.

### FOOTBALL

CONCACAF GOLD CUP: Brazil 1 Guatemala 1 (in Miami).

*Thursday's late results*

PONTIN'S LEAGUE: *Second division:* Stockport 1 Barnsley 2. League Cup: Group four: Stoke 3 Bury 0. Group six: Tranmere 3 Blackpool 4.
COMPLETE MUSIC HELLENIC LEAGUE: Premier division: Abingdon 1 Carterton Town 0.
FAI HARP LAGER CUP: Second round: Dundalk 0 Shelbourne 0.
DUTCH LEAGUE: Fortuna Sittard 2 Sparta Rotterdam 1.
INTERNATIONAL TOURNAMENT: Cyprus 1 Finland 1; Slovenia 3 Iceland 2 (in Limassol).
INTERNATIONAL MATCH: Morocco 3 Nigeria 0 (at Marrakesh).
SPANISH CUP: Quarter-final, first leg: Barcelona 2 Merida 0.
SCHOOLS MATCHES: Premier League Trophy: Under-16: Warwickshire 0 Staffordshire 1. Snickers Trophy: Second round: Glyn ADT, Surrey 2 Dame Alice Owen, Herts 2.

### GOLF

SYDNEY: Greg Norman International: Leaders after two rounds (Aus unless stated): 134: J M Olazabal (Sp) 67, 67. 135: J Cook (US) 68, 66. 136: C Jones 69, 67. 137: N Price (Zim) 68, 69; R Gibson (Can) 68, 69. 138: J Senden 72, 66; G Coles 70, 68; P Gow 69, 69; A Painter 70, 68. 139: W Smith 72, 67; D Dunaway (US) 70, 69; P Lonard 69, 70; R Russell (Scot) 69, 70; J Cooper 68, 73.

LA JOLLA, California: Buick Invitational: Leading first-round scores (US unless stated): 62: D Love, 68: F Zoeller, R Tway, S Jurgenson, J Sandoy, 65: T Kite, S Clink, B Watkins, D Martin, C Perry, R W Eaks.

DURBAN: Vodacom Mercedes-Benz South African Open: Leaders after two rounds 138: M Hallberg (Swe) 66, 72. 141: M Gortana 70, 71; J Remesy (Fr) 68, 73; I Palmer 69, 72. 142: U van den Berg 70, 72. 144: P Panagopoulos 74, 70.

### HOCKEY

CRYSTAL PALACE: EHA Indoor championship: Pool A: Teddington 9 Doncaster 4; Doncaster 4 Reading 9. Pool B: East Grinstead 6 Hull 2; Hull 1 Old Loughtonians 6.

### ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Boston 1 St Louis 3; Ottawa 3 Toronto 2; Tampa Bay 4 Detroit 5; Calgary 4 San Jose 2; Colorado 4 Chicago 2; Phoenix 2 Philadelphia 6; Los Angeles 3 New York Rangers 1.
EXPRESS CUP: Newcastle Cobras 3 Manchester Storm 3 (OT); Basingstoke Bison 3 Nottingham Panthers 9; Cardiff Devils 1 Bracknell Bees 6.

### RUGBY UNION

INTERNATIONAL MATCHES: Ireland A 9 Scotland A 11 (at Donnybrook); Ireland Under-21 23 Scotland Under-21 7 (at Clontarf).
SCHOOLS MATCH: Ballymena Academy 6 Royal School Dungannon 8.

### SAILING

WHITBREAD ROUND THE WORLD RACE: Latest positions: 1, Toshiba (US) 5,459.6 miles to finish of fifth leg; 2, Swedish Match (Swe) 12.6 miles behind; 3, Silk Cut (GB) 22.0; 4, EF Language (Swe) 22.4; 5, Merit Cup (Monaco) 23.9; 6, Chessie Racing (US) 24.1; 7, Innovation Kvaerner (Nor) 85.7; 8, EF Education (Swe) 98.9; 9, BrunelSunergy (Holl) 153.0

### SNOOKER

WEMBLEY CONFERENCE CENTRE: Benson and Hedges Masters: Quarter-final: S Davis (Eng) bt R O'Sullivan (Eng) 6-3; K Doherty (Ire) bt J Wattana (Thai) 6-1.

### TABLE TENNIS

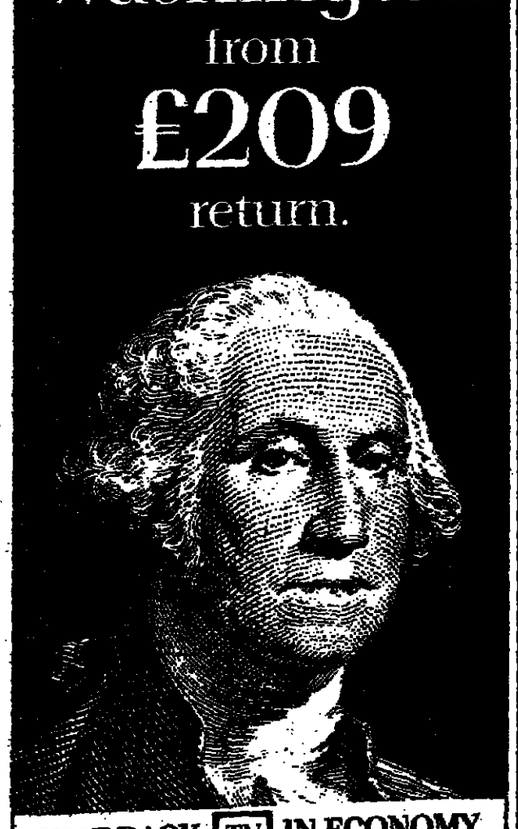
GREAT YARMOUTH: Men's European League: First division: England 1 Greece 4 (England names first: C Prean bt I Kordoulas 18-21, 21-11, 21-18; M Syed lost to K Creange 7-21, 11-21; T Young lost to N Tsiokos 21-14, 13-21, 7-21; Prean and Young lost to Tsiokas and P Gionis 18-21, 17-21; Prean lost to Kreange 11-21, 16-21)

### TENNIS

MARSEILLES: Marseilles Open: Second round: T Enqvist (Swe) bt F Roig (Sp) 6-2, 6-3; Y Kafelnikov (Russ) bt A Voinea (Rom) 6-1, 3-6, 6-4; A Clement (Fr) bt J Alonso (Sp) 6-1, 6-4; A Boetsch (Fr) bt G Kuerten (Br) 7-5, 6-2. Quarter-final: M Tillstrom (Swe) bt Boetsch 4-6, 6-0, 7-6.
SPLIT: Croatia indoor tournament: Second round: G Ivanisevic (Cro) bt B Becker (Ger) 7-6, 6-7, 6-4; G Ruseckl (GB) bt J Kroslak (Cz) 6-4, 6-3; M Sinner (Ger) bt D Sanguinetti (It) 6-2, 3-6, 6-3; J Novak (Cz) bt E Alvarez (Sp) 6-1, 7-5. Quarter-finals: G Ruseckl bt M Damm (Cz) 6-1, 6-4, M Rosset (Switz) bt R Schuttler (Ger) 6-2, 6-2; Y Kafelnikov (Russ) bt A Clement (Fr) 6-2, 3-6, 6-4; Ivanisevic bt Novak 7-6, 7-6.
TOKYO: Toray Pan Pacific Open: Women: Singles: Quarter-finals: M Hingis (Switz) bt R Grande (It) 6-2 7-5; I Majoli (Cro) bt M Seidl (Japan) 6-2, 6-1; A Coetzer (SA) bt A Sugiyama (Japan) 6-3, 2-6, 6-2; L Davenport (US) bt I Spirlea (Rom) 7-6, 7-6.
BRAMHALL: LTA men's tournament: Second round: A Pratzsch (Ger) bt A Hunt (NZ) 6-3, 6-3; M Belgraver (Holl) bt A Pemmer (GB) 6-2, 4-6, 6-4; M Verkerk (Holl) bt R Wolderdeld (Ger) 6-1, 6-4, M Maury (Holl) bt R Matheson (GB) 6-4, 7-6; F Loven (Swe) bt N Gould (GB) 4-6, 6-1, 6-1; D van Uffelen (Bel) bt T Larsen (Den) 6-3, 6-2; M Navarra (It) bt J Delgado (GB) 3-6, 6-3, 7-6; V Liukko (Fin) bt F Browhs (Arg) 6-2, 6-4
BIRKENHEAD: LTA women's tournament: Quarter-finals: G Casoni (It) bt J Ward (GB) 6-7, 6-1, 6-1; P Mandula (Hun) bt M Koutstaal (Holl) 6-1, 6-2; N Hubenerova (Cz) bt O Ivanova (Russ) 6-3, 6-4; A Jones (GB) bt J Chouchuay (GB) 6-4, 6-0.


Virgin MegaSavers.

Washington from £209 return.



SEAT BACK TV IN ECONOMY.

For world beating offers, that include all taxes, call us by 19 February on 01293 747 245. Or contact your local travel agent.

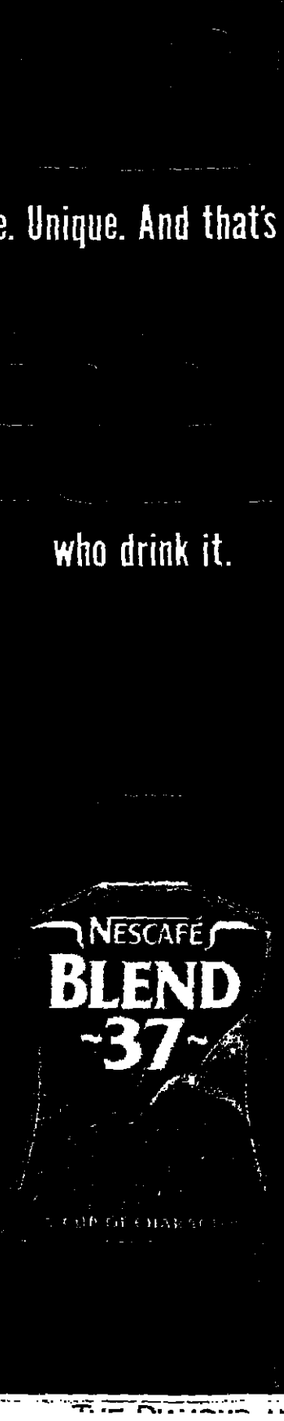
virgin atlantic

Fares are subject to change due to currency conversion. Washington fare DH/Mon DH/40. Book by 19 February 1998. Outbound travel by 31 March 1998. Limited availability. Other restrictions apply.



Distinctive. Unique. And that's just the

who drink it.



NESCAFÉ BLEND ~37~

A CUP OF CHARACTER

NESCAFÉ BLEND 37

RACING: IRELAND'S LEADING GOLD CUP HOPE GETS CHANCE TO MAKE AMENDS FOR NAAS LAPSE

# Dorans Pride has point to prove

By Chris McGrath

THE Irish will not permit depressing talk of wooden spoons to extend beyond the first leg of Dublin's sporting weekend. However their team fares against Scotland at Lansdowne Road today, they go to Leopardstown tomorrow with nothing on their minds but silverware — at next month's Cheltenham Festival.

The Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup should reveal who can bear the raiding party's standard in the Tote Cheltenham Gold Cup. The honour is contested by Imperial Call, the equine hero at Cheltenham in 1996, and Dorans Pride, third as a novice last year.

The next generation, however, is most vividly represented by **Florida Pearl**, who has been soberly backed for next year's Gold Cup after just one outing over fences. His clash with Hill Society and Boss Doyle in the Dr P J Moriarty Novices' Chase will, no doubt, place in due perspective extravagant talk of the reincarnation of Arkle.

Dorans Pride, thwarted by a minor training setback, missed an intended encounter with Imperial Call in the Ericsson Chase. Instead, the next day Florida Pearl became the talk of the Leopardstown Christmas meeting, romping home by 20 lengths.

When Dorans Pride surfaced at Naas just five days afterwards, it was almost as though his status as the great green hope had been drained hollow. He could reasonably be expected to fail, shouldering a big weight in desperate conditions, over a trip short of his best. Yet his instincts seem to desert him entirely, as he faltered and groped his way round, trailing in last of five. Michael Hourigan, his trainer, never discovered what was amiss, but is now satisfied that Dorans Pride is back on song.

Everything had been going so smoothly beforehand. Dorans Pride had won three races with serene confidence, including one at Clonmel in November at the expense of Imperial Call. He had already shrugged off 12 stone in the Kerry National, whereas Imperial Call was having his first outing since being pulled up in a dispirited defence of his Cheltenham crown.

In the circumstances, it was encouraging to see Imperial Call travel strongly to the second-last before his rival quickened away. He emerged to run a fine race over timber at Navan, overhauled close home by Cockney Lad.

Nonetheless, the fact that he was left with little to beat at Christmas means the jury is still out. His seven-length defeat of Merry Gale was not entirely smooth. Tomorrow, Imperial Call gets his chance to revive the grandeur of his performance in this race en route to Cheltenham two years ago.

Having travelled with an imperious air through the Ericsson, jumping well, he tired quickly once he went clear in the straight, and Conor O'Dwyer eased him right up.

**Dorans Pride** is marginally preferred tomorrow, although both horses have something to prove. Not as much, admittedly, as Go Ballistic, the main British hope, who has contributed to his yard's disappointing season. The Gold Cup fourth did show signs of life at Ascot last time, but the locals will not be distracted from the main showdown — except, perhaps, by Florida Pearl.

Ramden case, page 7
Other cards, page 44

**RICHARD EVANS**

**Nap: Cattly Hang**
(2.55 Wetherby)

Cattly Hang is a progressive chaser who runs particularly well at Wetherby. Impressive when successful over course and distance last time, he can follow up off a 6lb higher mark.

**Next best: Nahthen Lad**
(2.20 Uttoxeter)

CAROLINE NORRIS



Dorans Pride, prone to errors when disappointing at Naas last time out, looks to regain the winning thread in the Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup at Leopardstown tomorrow

## LEOPARDSTOWN TOMORROW

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT

**3.40 HENNESSY COGNAC GOLD CUP** BBC2
(Grade I: £56,000: 3m) (8 runners)

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 12146-4 | ANABATIC 14 (F,G,S) (W Phelan) M J O'Brien 10-12-0 | T P Rudd | 148 |
| 2 | SF-PPPP | CORKET 14 (G,S) (S C Sullivan) A P O'Brien 9-12-0 | A Dobbin | 130 |
| 3 | 31-1115 | DORANS PRIDE 36 (BF,CD,F,G,S) (T Doran) M Hourigan 9-12-0 | R Dunwoody | 187 |
| 4 | 4P-P54U | GO BALLISTIC 16 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs B Lockhart) J O Sheo (GB) 9-12-0 | M A Fitzgerald | 156 |
| 5 | 4-13053 | HERMES HARVEST 29 (B,D,G,S) (B Palmer) D Williams (GB) 10-12-0 | Mr S Durack | 143 |
| 6 | 43P-221 | IMPERIAL CALL 42 (CD,G,S) (Lisselan Farms Ltd) F Sutherland 9-12-0 | C O'Dwyer | 161 |
| 7 | -413212 | MERRY GALE 6 (BF,G,G,S) (H Stanley) J Dreaper 10-12-0 | N Williamson | 159 |
| 8 | 143-03U | DUN BELLE 10 (D,G,S) (Mrs A Connolly) P Fahy 6-11-9 | T P Treacy | 138 |

BETTING: 11-10 Dorans Pride, 6-4 Imperial Call, 7-1 Merry Gale, 10-1 Go Ballistic, 25-1 Hermes Harvest, 33-1 Corket, 50-1 Anabatic, Dun Belle.

# Daraydan to prove pick of Pipe's strong entry

SANDOWN PARK
CHANNEL 4

**2.30:** Shadow Leader, best coming from off a strong pace, was beaten in a sprint finish at Kempton on his reappearance, but this could turn into something similar. It is worrying that he carried his head awkwardly under pressure.

The David Nicholson-trained Sanmartino, also caught out by the false pace in third, had been progressing nicely, while a revival is expected in the fortunes of the next home, **I'm Supposin**. The Champion Hurdle fourth has excuses for recent disappointments and could represent value. Mary Reveley finally steps the unbeaten Marello up in class, but she could find conditions against her.

**3.05:** Jack Doyle has romped home twice since moving to Nigel Twiston-Davies's stable, but he may not be the sort to find a great deal off the bridle — he edged right up the hill at Cheltenham last week. Also, he has not had much chance to recover and this is faster ground. Cyfor Malta, impressive on his British debut here, receives a useful 10lb weight-for-age allowance, but is an unknown quantity on this going.

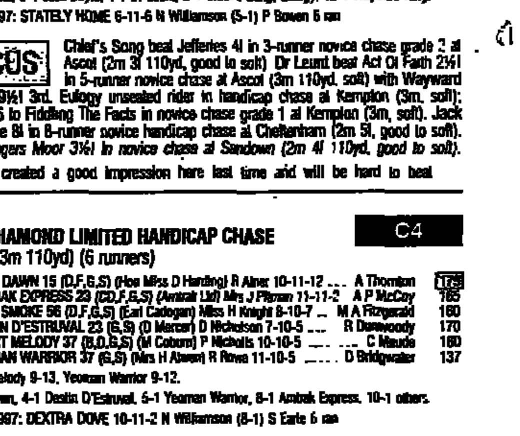
Dr Leunt's recent sequence looks rather hollow, and Wayward King could reverse Ascot form over this trip. He is prone to mistakes, however. **Chief's Song** has fewest question marks, as he jumps well, loves fast ground and goes well right-handed. Morever, he could be an improved performer over this trip.

TODAY'S RACES ON TELEVISION

**3.35:** **Cool Dawn** has been found yet another uncompetitive race offering decent prize-money, though he needed plenty of courage to complete his Ascot treble under a big weight. One must hope that the race has not left its mark, but his fine jumping could steal this over the railway fences. The well-treated Destin D'Estruval is unconvincing at this trip, but Court Melody may be well suited by dropping back from even further.

**4.10:** Big Strand has obvious prospects after advertising his continued progress on his seasonal reappearance at Kempton, though there has also been money for his stable companion, Harbour Island, who is 19lb better off with another Pipe runner, Daraydan, compared with their third and sixth placings behind Istabraq at Cheltenham last year.

However, Harbour Island is not a straightforward performer, while **Daraydan** will relish the ground after getting bogged down last time out. A gifted claimer, Xavier Aizpuru, reduces his burden and he is worth a bet.



Gifford: Sandown hope

Far Dawn and Whip Hand are from stables having a quiet spell, and also are not certain to stay. Mistinguett is penalised for beating some out-of-form rivals at Cheltenham last week, while Princeful and Friendship have been progressing on easier ground.

**4.40:** The well-bred Colour Code beat little of note on his hurdling debut at Market Rasen and is unlikely to be great value. Josh Gifford's contender, **Kurakka**, has shaped well over two miles and, while he will not come into his own until going chasing, this much stiffer test will suit him well. Brush With Fame could improve markedly on this faster going, but would be better off in handicaps.

UTTOXETER
BBC1

**1.15:** Some promising novices run here, none more so than **Careysville**, who can shrug off a 14lb higher mark than when winning with farcical ease at Ludlow last time. He will take all the beating and is yet another feather in the cap of Venetia Williams. Mountain Path may be the biggest danger after producing an improved performance last time. Another good prospect is Strong Chairman, though he has plenty on his plate.

**1.45:** Lucia Forte evidently goes well fresh, winning easily at Huntingdon, but that was not much of a race with the favourite disappointing. Winn's Pride, successful over course and distance, has been doing well in unsuitably testing conditions, and could prove well treated back on this drying ground.

**2.20:** The Jenny Pitman-trained Nahthen Lad, though served least well by the weights going up, can be expected to mount a bold effort after confirming his return to form at Haydock last time. He does not look a particularly easy ride, however, whereas **Him Of Praise** is positively exuberant after five consecutive victories. Still lightly raced, the eight-year-old will like this course, even if he would prefer it slightly easier underfoot. There are question marks over the jumping of Ottowa and Martell Boy, who endured a really taxing race last time.

CHRIS McGRATH

## SANDOWN PARK

THUNDERER

1.25 Leading Note
1.55 Storm Alert
2.30 I'm Supposin
3.05 Cyfor Malta
3.35 Destin D'Estruval
4.10 Daraydan
4.40 Claudia Electric

### GUIDE TO OUR IN-LINE RACECARD

101 113143 GOOD TIMES 13 (BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 12-0 ........ B West (7) 88

Racecard number. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing: F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. Timekeeper's speed rating.

GOING: GOOD (GOOD TO FIRM IN PLACES) SIS
TOTE JACKPOT MEETING

**1.25 RIPLEY JUVENILE NOVICES HURDLE**
(4-Y-O: £3,664: 2m 110yd) (10 runners)

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 101 | 2F1 | CITY HALL 28 (CD,S) (Mrs R Kay & Mrs V Ward) Mrs V Ward 11-8 | N Williamson | 118 |
| 102 | 1 | SIR TALBOT 17 (D,S) (W Stud) J Old 11-4 | M A Fitzgerald | 127 |
| 103 | 3213 | TOUGH ACT 54 (CD,S) (Mrs R Doel) Mrs A Perrett 11-4 | C Maude | 106 |
| 104 | 5P2 | COPPER SHELL 17 (Eastbury Racing Club) A P Jones 11-0 | A Thornton | 111 |
| 105 | 0 | SPICK AND SPAN 17 (Essendess Partners) P Hedger 11-0 | G Tormey | 99 |
| 106 | | ABAJANY 119F (J White & Partners) M Channon 10-10 | D Byrne | – |
| 107 | | PERICLES 14F (Miss G Kelleway) Gay Kelleway 10-10 | C Llewellyn | – |
| 108 | | PREMIER BAY 119F (E Thornton) P Hobbs 10-10 | R Dunwoody | – |
| 109 | | LEADING NOTE 115F (The Leaders) Miss H Knight 10-5 | B Fenton | – |
| 110 | | RUMBUSTIOUS 71F (C Curtis) J S Moore 10-5 | J Magee (3) | – |

BETTING: 10-11 Sir Talbot, 7-2 City Hall, 8-1 Tough Act, 10-1 Premier Bay, 12-1 Copper Shell, 14-1 others.

1997: HAYAAIN 10-10 J Railton (8-1) K Bailey 10 ran

**1.55 ELMBRIDGE HANDICAP CHASE** (£7,295: 2m) (4 runners)

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 201 | 3420-4F | BIG MATT 80 (D,F,G,S) (T Benfield, W Brown) N Henderson 10-12-0 | M A Fitzgerald | 133 |
| 202 | 184-335 | STORM ALERT 49 (CD,F,G,S) (Mrs D Pessott) D Nicholson 12-11-13 | R Dunwoody | 158 |
| 203 | 33-2145 | LEOTARD 21 (CD,F,G,S) (Mrs P Hartley) Miss V Williams 11-11-13 | N Williamson | 155 |
| 204 | 62-3FRP | OH SO RISKY 63 (D,F,G) (M Tabor) D Elsworth 11-11-6 | P Holley | 122 |

BETTING: 7-4 Storm Alert, 2-1 Leotard, 5-2 Big Matt, 7-1 Oh So Risky.

1997: CERTAINLY STRONG 7-10-0 R Dunwoody (9-4 fav) D Nicholson 4 ran

**2.30 AGFA HURDLE** (£10,114: 2m 110yd) (6 runners) C4

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 301 | 1111-2 | SHADOW LEADER 42 (D,F,G,S) (J Blackshaw) C Egerton 7-11-5 | N Williamson | 154 |
| 302 | 61-1113 | SANMARTINO 42 (BF,D,F,G,S) (K Abdulla) D Nicholson 6-11-4 | R Dunwoody | 170 |
| 303 | 140-234 | I'M SUPPOSIN 42 (D,S) (N Cooper) R Rowe 6-11-0 | D Bridgwater | 163 |
| 304 | 1111-11 | MARELLO 15 (D,G,S) (Mr & Mrs W Williams) Mrs M Reveley 7-10-13 | P Niven | 144 |
| 305 | 2000-53 | MASTER BEVELED 22F (D,G,S) (Mrs E Williams) P Evans 8-10-9 | A P McCoy | 150 |
| 306 | 11F0FY | DEBUTANTE DAYS 105F (CD,G) (Mrs S Bastow) Miss H Knight 6-10-4 | M A Fitzgerald | – |

BETTING: 6-4 Shadow Leader, 9-4 Marello, 5-2 Sanmartino, 10-1 I'm Supposin, 20-1 Debutante Days, 25-1 Master Beveled.

1997: DOUBLE SYMPHONY 9-10-4 J Osborne (13-2) C Brooks 6 ran

FORM FOCUS Shadow Leader ¾l 2nd of 5 to Kerawi in hurdle grade 1 at Kempton (2m, soft) with Sanmartino (1lb better off) 4½l 3rd and I'm Supposin (5lb better off) 13l 4th. Marello beat Political Tower 5l in 4-runner handicap hurdle at Kelso (2m 110yd, heavy). Master Beveled 2½l 3rd of 8 to Thrower in handicap hurdle at Haydock (2m 4f, good to soft). Debutante Days pulled up in hurdle at Chepstow (2m 110yd, good to firm), previously 21l 9th of 11 to Zabadi in novice hurdle grade 2 at Aintree (2m 110yd, good).

MARELLO, potentially top-class, is confidently expected to maintain her unbeaten record

**3.05 SCILLY ISLES NOVICES CHASE** C4
(Grade I: £20,752: 2m 4f 110yd) (6 runners)

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 401 | 0-12151 | CHIEF'S SONG 49 (F,G,S) (Mrs A Devine) S Dow 8-11-6 | N Williamson | 139 |
| 402 | 50-1211 | DR LEUNT 21 (G,S) (P Emery) P Hobbs 7-11-6 | R Dunwoody | 143 |
| 403 | F0-124U | EULOGY 22 (BF,G) (N Cooper) R Rowe 8-11-6 | D Bridgwater | 150 |
| 404 | P01P-11 | JACK DOYLE 7 (D,S) (Oracle Logistics) N Twiston-Davies 7-11-6 | C Llewellyn | 140 |
| 405 | 1-5U413 | WAYWARD KING 21 (G,S) (Fieldspring Racing) R Hodges 6-11-6 | T Dascombe | 128 |
| 406 | 0-32111 | CYFOR MALTA 28 (CD,G,S) (D Johnson) M Pipe 5-10-10 | A P McCoy | 130 |

BETTING: 13-8 Cyfor Malta, 3-1 Jack Doyle, 4-1 Dr Leunt, 8-4 Chief's Song, Eulogy, 12-1 Wayward King.

1997: STATELY HOME 6-11-6 N Williamson (5-1) P Bowen 5 ran

FORM FOCUS Chief's Song beat Jefferies 4l in 3-runner novice chase grade 2 at Ascot (2m 3f 110yd, good to soft) Dr Leunt beat Act Of Faith 2½l in 5-runner novice chase at Ascot (3m 110yd, soft) with Wayward King (3lb better off) 9½l 3rd. Eulogy unseated rider in handicap chase at Kempton (3m, soft); previously 42l 4th of 6 to Fiddling The Facts in novice chase grade 1 at Kempton (3m, soft). Jack Doyle beat Spring Gale 8l in 8-runner novice handicap chase at Cheltenham (2m 5f, good to soft). Cyfor Malta beat Bangers Moor 3½l in novice chase at Sandown (2m 4f 110yd, good to soft).

CYFOR MALTA created a good impression here last time and will be hard to beat

**3.35 AGFA DIAMOND LIMITED HANDICAP CHASE** C4
(Grade II: £18,714: 3m 110yd) (6 runners)

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 501 | /4-0111 | COOL DAWN 15 (D,F,G,S) (Hon Miss D Harding) R Alner 10-11-12 | A Thornton | 179 |
| 502 | 53/3-5P | AMTRAK EXPRESS 23 (CD,F,G,S) (Amtrak Ltd) Mrs J Pitman 11-11-2 | A P McCoy | 165 |
| 503 | /24F-2P | GREY SMOKE 56 (D,F,G,S) (Earl Cadogan) Miss H Knight 8-10-7 | M A Fitzgerald | 160 |
| 504 | 1-14F03 | DESTIN D'ESTRUVAL 23 (G,S) (D Mercer) D Nicholson 7-10-5 | R Dunwoody | 170 |
| 505 | 13-2234 | COURT MELODY 37 (B,D,G,S) (M Coburn) P Nicholls 10-10-5 | C Maude | 160 |
| 506 | 6032-1F | YEOMAN WARRIOR 37 (G,S) (Mrs H Alwen) R Rowe 11-10-5 | D Bridgwater | 137 |

Long handicap: Court Melody 9-13, Yeoman Warrior 9-12.

BETTING: Evens Cool Dawn, 4-1 Destin D'Estruval, 5-1 Yeoman Warrior, 8-1 Amtrak Express, 10-1 others.

1997: DEXTRA DOVE 10-11-2 N Williamson (8-1) S Earle 6 ran

FORM FOCUS Cool Dawn beat Oswell Lad 2l in 4-runner handicap chase at Ascot (3m 110yd, good to soft). Amtrak Express pulled up in chase at Wincanton (2m 5f, good to soft); previously 21l 5th of 6 to Red Blazer in handicap hurdle at Uttoxeter (2m 4f 110yd, good to soft). Grey Smoke pulled up in handicap chase at Doncaster (3m 2f, good); previously 1¾l 2nd of 4 to Danger Baby in handicap chase at Sandown (3m 110yd, good to firm). Destin D'Estruval 6l 3rd of 5 to River Mandate in handicap chase at Wetherby (3m 1f, soft). Court Melody 19l 4th of 10 to Kendal Cavalier in handicap chase at Cheltenham (4m 1f, good to soft). Yeoman Warrior fell in handicap chase at Cheltenham (2m 5f, good to soft): previously beat Flapjack Lad 30l in 6-runner handicap chase at Cheltenham (2m 5f, good)

COOL DAWN can strengthen his Cheltenham Gold Cup claims

**4.10 TOTE BOOKMAKERS SANDOWN HANDICAP HURDLE** C4
(Grade III: £27,370: 2m 6f) (14 runners)

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 601 | 3-25051 | MISTINGUETT 7 (F,G,S) (J Duggan) N Twiston-Davies 6-12-0 (6ex) | J Goldstein (7) | 153 |
| 602 | 21-1114 | DARAYDAN 43 (F,G,S) (D Johnson) M Pipe 6-11-10 | X Aizpuru (3) | 155 |
| 603 | 2P-2412 | PRINCEFUL 21 (BF,G,S) (R Hitchins) Mrs J Pitman 7-11-7 | R Dunwoody | 159 |
| 604 | 240-020 | MOORISH 28 (S) (A Fitzpatrick) N Twiston-Davies 8-11-6 | C Llewellyn | 140 |
| 605 | 0-PF214 | BUCKHOUSE BOY 15 (D,G,S) (Bawtry Boys) D Nicholson 8-11-3 | N Williamson | 150 |
| 606 | 11212P- | JATHIB 308 (D,F,G) (Crown Pkg & Mailing Svs Ltd) Mrs M Jones 7-11-3 | D Bridgwater | 154 |
| 607 | 12112-3 | BIG STRAND 14 (F,G,S) (C Jones) M Pipe 9-11-0 | A P McCoy | 144 |
| 608 | 11F-11F | FRIENDSHIP 43 (CD,G,S) (T Benfield, W Brown) N Henderson 6-10-12 | M A Fitzgerald | 165 |
| 609 | 120-212 | WHIP HAND 70 (BF,G,S) (Lady Lloyd Webber) J FitzGerald 7-10-12 | P Niven | 154 |
| 610 | /RR30-R | DANJING 43 (E,G) (Knight Hawks Partnership) M Pipe 6-10-11 | A Thornton | 122 |
| 611 | 43446-3 | OUTSET 70 (D,F,G,S) (M Kilcen) M Hammond 8-10-9 | Mr C Bonner (3) | 155 |
| 612 | 22-2300 | FAR DAWN 14 (C,F,G) (P Wiegand) Mrs A Perrett 5-10-7 | G Upton | 140 |
| 613 | 6022-20 | RUNAWAY PETE 15 (F,G) (J Smeaden) M Pipe 8-10-7 | J Evans | 138 |
| 614 | 1U66-5 | HARBOUR ISLAND 43 (B,F) (M Jones) M Pipe 6-10-3 | C Maude | 154 |

Long handicap: Mistinguett 11-10

BETTING: 3-1 Big Strand, 6-1 Friendship, Princeful, 7-1 Harbour Island, 8-1 Mistinguett, Whip Hand, 10-1 Moorish, Outset, 16-1 Daraydan, 30-1 Buckhouse Boy, 25-1 Runaway Pete, 33-1 others.

1997: TULLYMURRY TOFF 6-11-1 E Callaghan (7-2) J Jefferson 13 ran

FORM FOCUS Mistinguett beat Bimsey 15l in 5-runner hurdle grade 1 at Cheltenham (2m 5f 110yd, good to soft). Daraydan beaten a distance 4th of 6 to Hale Demeg in handicap hurdle at Kempton (3m 110yd, soft) with Friendship (4lb worse off) fell. Princeful 2½l 2nd of 18 to Splendid Thyne in handicap hurdle at Warwick (2m 4f 110yd, heavy). Moorish 7¾l 11th of 20 to Graphic Equaliser in handicap hurdle at Leopardstown (2m, good to soft). Buckhouse Boy 19l 4th of 10 to Tompetoo in handicap hurdle at Ascot (3m, soft) with Runaway Pete (1lb worse off) 40l 8th. Jathib pulled up in handicap chase grade 2 at Aintree (2m, good); previously 5l last of 2 to Amancio in novice chase at Ascot (2m, good to firm). Big Strand 1½l 3rd of 13 to Three Farthings in handicap hurdle at Kempton (2m 5f, good to soft) with Far Dawn (levels) 75l 11th. Whip Hand 1½l 2nd of 8 to Star Rage in handicap hurdle grade 2 at Newcastle (2m, good). Outset 33l 3rd of 10 to Deano's Beeno in handicap hurdle at Haydock (2m 6f, soft). Harbour Island 21l 5th of 10 to Buckhouse Boy (4lb worse off) in handicap hurdle at Wincanton (2m 6f, good to soft) with Danjing (levels) refused to race.

FRIENDSHIP had the race won when falling at Kempton and can gain compensation

**4.40 FEBRUARY NOVICES HURDLE** C4
(£3,599: 2m 6f) (7 runners)

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 11-1 | COLOUR CODE 43 (B,F,G,S) (B Walter) Mrs A Swinbank 6-11-5 | J Supple | 133 |
| 2 | 2-021 | GOOD LORD MURPHY 21 (S) (Country Side) P Hobbs 6-11-5 | R Dunwoody | 132 |
| 3 | 3-000 | BRUSH WITH FAME 21 (J & B Gibbs & Sons Ltd) P Hobbs 6-11-0 | G Tormey | 110 |
| 4 | 56/1-1P | CLAUDIA ELECTRIC 19 (G,S) (Mrs M Johnsey) Miss C Johnsey 6-11-0 | D Gallagher | 108 |
| 5 | 25 | KURAKKA 21 (Mrs M Swesser) J Gifford 5-11-0 | D Burrows (5) | 140 |
| 6 | 0/231/4 | LAKEFIELD LEADER 23 (G) (Newbury RGG) N Henderson 7-11-0 | M A Fitzgerald | 95 |
| 7 | 0P-00 | TARAKHEL 11 (H Smith) N Smith 5-11-0 | M Sharratt | 85 |

BETTING: 5-4 Colour Code, 7-2 Kurakka, 5-1 Good Lord Murphy, 6-1 Lakefield Leader, Claudia Electric, 16-1 others.

1997: EL FREDDIE 7-11-7 L Harvey (9-2) J Old 9 ran

FORM FOCUS Colour Code beat Ferrers 11l in 12-runner maiden hurdle at Market Rasen (2m 3f 110yd, heavy). Good Lord Murphy beat Rainbow Star 4l in 23-runner maiden hurdle at Warwick (2m 4f 110yd, heavy). Claudia Electric pulled up in novice hurdle at Fontwell (2m 6f 110yd, good to soft); previously beat Andando 2l in 9-runner novice hurdle at Uttoxeter (2m 4f 110yd, good). Kurakka 27l 5th of 12 to Gattux in novice hurdle at Ascot (2m 110yd, soft) with Tarakhel (levels) 82l 10th. Lakefield Leader 7½l 4th of 17 to Neat Feat in novice hurdle at Wincanton (2m, good to soft)

COLOUR CODE made an impressive debut over hurdles and will be hard to beat

COURSE SPECIALISTS

| TRAINERS | Wins | Rnrs | % | JOCKEYS | Winners | Rides | % |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| J FitzGerald | 4 | 10 | 40.0 | R Dunwoody | 23 | 98 | 23.5 |
| Mrs A Perrett | 3 | 8 | 37.5 | C Maude | 7 | 30 | 23.3 |
| J Old | 14 | 45 | 31.1 | A P McCoy | 14 | 73 | 19.2 |
| Mrs M Reveley | 6 | 20 | 30.0 | D Bridgwater | 7 | 40 | 17.5 |
| P Nicholls | 6 | 24 | 25.0 | A Thornton | 3 | 20 | 15.0 |
| D Nicholson | 19 | 80 | 23.8 | M A Fitzgerald | 10 | 90 | 11.1 |

## UTTOXETER

THUNDERER

1.15 Greville Again
1.45 Lough Tully
2.20 Him Of Praise
2.50 Glamanglitz
3.25 Strong Tel
3.55 Wren Warbler
4.30 Real Estate

Timekeeper's top rating: 3.25 STRONG TEL.

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT (GOOD IN PLACES) SIS

**1.15 DONCASTER SALES BREEDERS TROPHY** BBC1
(Novices handicap chase: £14,595: 3m 2f) (14 runners)

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 1111-21 | STRONG CHAIRMAN 21 [illegible] | T J Murphy | 120 |
| 2 | [illegible] | NIRVANA PRINCE 15 [illegible] | J Mogford (7) | 118 |
| 3 | [illegible] | COOLE HILL 23 [illegible] | Mr O McPhail (7) | 133 |
| 4 | [illegible] | KENDAL CAVALIER 27 [illegible] | D Salter (5) | 140 |
| 5 | [illegible] | PENNYMOOR PRINCE 17 [illegible] | J Frost | 140 |
| 6 | [illegible] | MYSTIC ISLE [illegible] | W Marston | 122 |
| 7 | [illegible] | MOUNTAIN PATH 17 [illegible] | J R Kavanagh | 139 |
| 8 | 23-1121 | COMMITTED SCHEDULE 29 [illegible] | A Dobbin | 140 |
| 9 | [illegible] | LANDED GENTRY 23 [illegible] | DOUBTFUL | 112 |
| 10 | [illegible] | CAREYSVILLE 16 [illegible] | J A McCarthy | 149 |
| 11 | [illegible] | PARAHANDY 332 [illegible] | B Powell | – |
| 12 | 011-P23 | GREVILLE AGAIN 26 [illegible] | R Johnson | 130 |
| 13 | [illegible] | ACT IN TIME 17 [illegible] | S Wynne | 138 |
| 14 | PU5-442 | HIGH HANDED 9 [illegible] | J Culloty | 118 |

Long handicap: Greville Again [illegible], Act In Time 9-8, High Handed 8-15

BETTING: [illegible] Mountain Path, [illegible] Kendal Cavalier, Strong Chairman, 8-1 Committed Schedule, Greville Again, [illegible] Pennymoor Prince, [illegible] Nirvana Prince, Coole Hill, 15-1 others.

1997: GENERAL PONGO [illegible] T George 13 ran

FORM FOCUS Strong Chairman beat Yahmi 13l in 3-runner novice chase at Newbury (3m, good to soft) previously 1l 2nd of 6 to Yahmi in novice chase at Cheltenham (3m 1f, good) with Kendal Cavalier ([illegible] better off) [illegible] 3rd. Nirvana Prince [illegible] 2nd of 15 to Jack Doyle in novice chase at Ludlow (2m [illegible], good to soft). Coole Hill fell in handicap chase at Wincanton (3m 1f 110yd, good to soft); previously beat Church Law [illegible] in 5-runner handicap chase at Stratford (3m, soft). Kendal Cavalier beat [illegible] 11l in 10-runner handicap chase at Cheltenham (4m 1f, good to soft); previously 15l 2nd of 9 to [illegible] in novice chase at [illegible] (3m 2f 110yd, good to soft) with Mystic Isle (3lb better off) pulled up. Pennymoor Prince beat Staunch Friend 2l in 11-runner novice chase at Windsor (3m, good to soft). Mountain Path beat Whistling Wall[illegible] 5l in 14-runner novice handicap chase at Windsor (3m, good to soft); previously 2½l 2nd of 7 to [illegible] in novice chase at Bangor (3m 4f 110yd, good to soft) with High Handed (8lb better off) [illegible] 4th. Committed Schedule beat [illegible] 2l in 9-runner handicap chase at Carlisle (3m 2f, soft). Careysville beat Fortunes Course 14l in 6-runner handicap chase at Ludlow (3m, good to soft). Parahandy 40l 6th of 23 to [illegible] in amateur chase at Cheltenham (4m, good to firm). Greville Again 3½l 3rd of 9 to [illegible] in novice chase at Plumpton (3m 1f 110yd, heavy). Act In Time 7l 2nd of 15 to Organ Recital in novice chase at Huntingdon (3m, good to soft). High Handed 1¼l 2nd of 11 to Wisley Wonder in novice chase at Huntingdon (3m, good to soft).

CAREYSVILLE remains at the right end of the handicap and can complete a treble

**1.45 LADBROKE HANDICAP HURDLE** BBC1
(£10,945: 2m 6f 110yd) (13 runners)

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2F411-1 | LUCIA FORTE 17 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs E Farmer) K Bailey 7-11-10 | Mr R Wakley (3) | 148 |
| 2 | 1243310 | METASTASIO 29 (B,G,S) (F Mallon) D McArdle (Ire) 6-11-6 | H Rogers | – |
| 3 | 2F14-02 | HOLDIMCLOSE 63 (D,F,S) (Mrs C Lucas) R Frost 8-11-1 | J Frost | 143 |
| 4 | 5530-63 | DALLY BOY 21 (F,G) (T Bennett) T Easterby 6-10-13 | E Callaghan | 135 |
| 5 | F3-2111 | ROYALE ANGELA 26 (S) (J Newley) J Neville 6-10-12 | R Johnson | 138 |
| 6 | 141-220 | RIPARIUS 21 (F,G) (Mrs D Blackburn) P R Webber 7-10-12 | J A McCarthy | 132 |
| 7 | 1226-10 | NINE O THREE 43 (F,G,S) (Sidesford Tool Ltd) A Hobbs 9-10-11 | R Guest | 138 |
| 8 | 3111-P5 | ELBURG 16 (C,G) (Mrs A Gamble) T George 6-10-11 | Mr K R O'Ryan (7) | 128 |
| 9 | .13-303 | WINN'S PRIDE 11 (CD,F,G,S) (Mr W Railey) R Hollinshead 7-10-7 | S Wynne | 129 |
| 10 | -212603 | CASTLE SECRET 14F (D,F,G,S) (Mrs R Burchell) D Burchell 12-10-6 | D J Burchell | 130 |
| 11 | 1-F4P20 | ROYAL PIPER 22 (C,D,F,S) (A Darlington) A J Wilson 11-10-6 | G Hogan (3) | 134 |
| 12 | .6F1-32 | DICTUM 17 (C,F,S) (Mrs P Humphreys) Miss H Knight 7-10-4 | J Culloty | 145 |
| 13 | 311-250 | LOUGH TULLY 21 (D,S) (H Hartington) F Jordan 8-10-2 | A Dobbin | 141 |

BETTING: 3-1 Lucia Forte, 6-1 Dictum, Metastasio, Royale Angela, 10-1 Dally Boy, Lough Tully, 12-1 Riparius, Winn's Pride, 14-1 Royal Piper, 16-1 others.

1997: SUPREME LADY 6-11-0 J Culloty (5-1) Miss H Knight 11 ran

FORM FOCUS Lucia Forte beat Beaumont 9l in 10-runner handicap hurdle at Huntingdon (2m 5f 110yd, good to soft). Metastasio 16l 15th of 20 to Graphic Equaliser in handicap hurdle at Leopardstown (2m, good to soft). Holdimclose 6l 2nd of 8 to Sesame Seed in handicap hurdle at Chepstow (2m 4f 110yd, soft) with Lough Tully (4lb better off) 26l 5th. Dally Boy 44l 3rd of 14 to Hit The Canvas in handicap hurdle at Newcastle (3m, good to soft) with Lough Tully (3lb better off) 17l 7th. Royale Angela beat Cabochon 3l in 7-runner handicap hurdle at Plumpton (2m 4f, heavy). Riparius 20l 7th of 14 to Napper Reed in handicap hurdle at Ascot (2m 110yd, soft). Nine O Three 39l 7th of 10 to Buckhouse Boy in handicap hurdle at Wincanton (2m 6f, good to soft). Elburg 15l 5th of 17 to Tully in handicap hurdle at Ludlow (3m 2f 110yd, good to soft). Winn's Pride 10l 3rd of 7 to Beechfield Flyer in handicap hurdle at Leicester (2m 4f 110yd, soft). Castle Secret 9l 3rd of 12 to Native Field in claiming hurdle at Towcester (2m 5f, soft). Royal Piper 32l 7th of 15 to Tompetoo in handicap hurdle at Kempton (3m 110yd, soft). Dictum 1¼l 2nd of 18 to Green Crusader in handicap hurdle at Windsor (3m 4f, good to soft).

LUCIA FORTE is taken to go well despite a big weight

**2.20 SINGER & FRIEDLANDER NATIONAL TRIAL** BBC1
(Handicap chase: £32,147: 3m 4f) (11 runners)

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | P2P0-33 | NAHTHEN LAD 14 (G,S) (J Shaw) Mrs J Pitman 9-11-10 | D Leahy | 154 |
| 2 | 1454-32 | CALL IT A DAY 29 (C,G,S) (Mrs J Laney) D Nicholson 8-11-6 | R Johnson | 155 |
| 3 | 1253-11 | MCGREGOR THE THIRD 37 (C,F,G,S) (Mrs D Whitaker) G Richards 12-11-4 | B Harding | 147 |
| 4 | 31-1111 | HIM OF PRAISE 28 (D,G,S) (M St Quinton) O Sherwood 8-10-11 | J A McCarthy | 160 |
| 5 | -113P0 | GREENHIL TARE AWAY 42 (F,G,S) (Mrs P Payne) P Hobbs 10-10-10 | S McNeill | 122 |
| 6 | 4F04-12 | KAMIKAZE 56 (BF,G,S) (Major B Gatensbury) K Bailey 8-10-9 | Mr R Wakley (3) | 155 |
| 7 | 1F-12-6 | IDIOT'S LADY 15 (C,G,S) (Mrs J Ghosh) Mrs J Pitman 9-10-9 | J Culloty | 145 |
| 8 | 013-66F | JET RULES 21 (B,G,S) (Jet Stationery Con) Mrs J Pitman 8-10-3 | J R Kavanagh | 130 |
| 9 | 410-643 | TURNING TRIX 37 (G,S) (M Tuvey) D Nicholson 11-10-8 | Mr O McPhail (7) | 154 |
| 10 | 412 123 | OTTOWA 43 (G,S) (P Barber) P Nicholls 8-10-6 | T J Murphy | 165 |
| 11 | 421-12 | MARTELL BOY 21 (G,S) (D Jones) Miss V Williams 11-10-0 | A Dobbin | 150 |

Long handicap: Martell Boy 9-13

BETTING: 5-2 Him Of Praise, 9-2 Call It A Day, 5-1 Nahthen Lad, 7-1 Ottowa, 9-1 Martell Boy, 10-1 Kamikaze, McGregor The Third, 14-1 others.

1997: LORD GYLLENE 9-11-9 R Johnson (11-8 fav) S Brookshaw 9 ran

FORM FOCUS Nahthen Lad 4l 3rd of 9 to General Wolfe in handicap chase grade II at Haydock (3m, soft). McGregor The Third beat Stoney Sauce beaten a distance in 6-runner chase at Cheltenham (3m 1f, good to soft), previously beat Dream Ride ¾l in 6-runner handicap chase at Stratford (3m, good). Him Of Praise beat Call It A Day (6lb better off) 1½l in 14-runner handicap chase at Sandown (3m 5f 110yd, good to soft). Greenhil Tare Away 55l 7th of 14 to Earth Summit in handicap chase grade I at Chepstow (3m 5f 110yd, heavy). Kamikaze 6l 2nd of 5 to Sail By The Stars in handicap chase at Lingfield (3m, soft). Idiot's Lady 37l 6th of 10 to Tompetoo in handicap hurdle at Ascot (3m, soft). Turning Trix 15l 3rd of 10 to Kendal Cavalier in handicap chase at Cheltenham (4m 1f, good to soft); previously 29l 4th of 8 to Him Of Praise (14lb worse off) in handicap chase at Haydock (4m 110yd, good to soft). Ottowa 12l 3rd of 6 to Fiddling The Facts in novice chase grade I at Kempton (3m, soft). Martell Boy a distance 2nd of 16 to A N C Express in handicap chase at Warwick (3m 5f, heavy) with Jet Rules (1lb better off) fell.

NAHTHEN LAD, a dour stayer, will be thoroughly at home over this trip

COURSE SPECIALISTS

| TRAINERS | Wins | Rnrs | % | JOCKEYS | Winners | Rides | % |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| M Pipe | 37 | 122 | 30.3 | J Culloty | 10 | 33 | 30.3 |
| M Tompkins | 5 | 17 | 29.4 | G Bradley | 7 | 29 | 24.1 |
| O Sherwood | 15 | 54 | 27.8 | J A McCarthy | 6 | 29 | 20.7 |
| N Henderson | 8 | 31 | 25.8 | J R Kavanagh | 7 | 45 | 15.6 |
| G Richards | 6 | 24 | 25.0 | D J Burchell | 3 | 21 | 14.3 |
| Miss H Knight | 17 | 69 | 24.6 | T J Murphy | 3 | 21 | 14.3 |
| D Nicholson | 20 | 84 | 23.8 | G Hogan | 3 | 23 | 13.0 |

**2.50 STANLEY RACING NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE**
(£5,591: 2m 5f) (10 runners)

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2135214 | GLAMANGLITZ 72 (CD,F,G) (Mrs J Marley) P Dalton 8-11-10 | R Johnson | 134 |
| 2 | 1212-1 | CALLING WILD 19 (G,S) (Hunt & Co Ltd) P Nicholls 8-11-7 | T J Murphy | 146 |
| 3 | 2P 4F11 | CAPENWRAY 12 (D,F,G,S) (B Pepper) J King 9-11-6 | J Culloty | 140 |
| 4 | 0P0.F62 | STAUNCH FRIEND 17 (G,S) (Mrs M Tompkins) M Tompkins 10-11-5 | A Dobbin | 133 |
| 5 | 33F-320 | HAWKFIELD 16 (BF,S) (Hedonists) P Hobbs 9-11-5 | Mr R Widger (7) | 140 |
| 6 | 666/UP5 | MANDALAY 17 (Auld Alliance) J Old 9-10-12 | G Hogan (3) | 122 |
| 7 | P-10240 | ROSSELL ISLAND 61 (BF,G) (R Hitchins) Mrs J Pitman 7-10-6 | D Leahy | 143 |
| 8 | -40-453 | SPEEDWELL PRINCE 61 (F) (Bar Fixtures Phoenix) N Twiston-Davies 8-10-6 | W Marston | 144 |
| 9 | 1145230 | LORD NITROGEN 17 (F,G) (B Llewellyn) B Llewellyn 8-10-2 | B Powell | 133 |
| 10 | 040.065 | VASILIEV 42 (F,S) (R Forman) S Gollings 10-10-0 | Mr O McPhail (7) | 120 |

Long handicap: Vasiliev 9-2

BETTING: 9-4 Calling Wild, 9-2 Staunch Friend, 11-2 Capenwray, 7-1 Glamanglitz, 8-1 Hawkfield, 10-1 Rossell Island, 12-1 Speedwell Prince, 14-1 others.

1997: NOYAN 7-11-3 R Thornton (2-1 jt-fav) R Fahey 6 ran

**3.25 JENKINSONS NOVICES HURDLE** (£3,989: 3m 110yd) (14 runners)

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | -03215P | BULLENS BAY 16 (D,F,G,S) (J Milton) B Llewellyn 9-11-8 | B Powell | 120 |
| 2 | 1220-13 | DOM BELTRANO 79 (BF,D,S) (C Wright) N Twiston-Davies 6-11-3 | W Marston | 130 |
| 3 | 0338-1 | STRONG TEL 73 (S) (T Neill) M Pipe 8-11-3 | J Lower | 136 |
| 4 | 221/P'P | BENUAD 16 (D,G) (J R W Hole) D Burchell 12-10-12 | D J Burchell | – |
| 5 | 653/2-0 | GUNNER SID 8 (Mrs M Price) B Preece 7-10-12 | J Mogford (7) | – |
| 6 | | MAKHPIYA PATAHN (Geoff Slotten) J Mullins 6-10-12 | R Guest | – |
| 7 | /000/F3 | MR FRANGIPANI 39 (Ackleybank Investments Ltd) G Richards 7-10-12 | A Dobbin | 95 |
| 8 | 0056/P0 | PERFIK LARK 17 (H Bibby) R Brotherton 8-10-12 | S Curran | – |
| 9 | 032P- | POLLY UMRIGAR 858 (Mr & Mrs J Poynton) I Williams 7-10-12 | R Johnson | – |
| 10 | P3P-50 | SILLY PET 14 (C Pogson) C Pogson 8-10-12 | N Bentley | 80 |
| 11 | 4-30 | SWEET LORD 14 (I S Networking Solutions Ltd) M Bradstock 7-10-12 | G Bradley | 110 |
| 12 | U-000 | TIRLEY GALE 21 (D Smith) J Smith 6-10-12 | Mr O McPhail (7) | 96 |
| 13 | PRP- | WOLDSMAN 274 (R Slater) N Twiston-Davies 8-10-12 | T J Murphy | – |
| 14 | /0-0243 | KENTFORD TINA 15 (G) (D Bure) J Mullins 7-10-7 | A Bates (5) | 118 |

BETTING: 6-4 Strong Tel, 9-2 Dom Beltrano, 5-1 Sweet Lord, 6-1 Kentford Tina, 10-1 Mr Frangipani, 14-1 Polly Umrigar, 20-1 Bullens Bay, 25-1 others.

1997: MENTMORE TOWERS 5-10-12 R Farrant (9-4 fav) Mrs J Pitman 14 ran

**3.55 E B F TATTERSALLS IRELAND MARES ONLY NOVICES CHASE**
(£3,501: 2m 4f) (13 runners)

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | F30-PF4 | BLAST FREEZE 7 (G,S) (Pioneer Heat-Treatment) N Henderson 9-11-0 | J R Kavanagh | 99 |
| 2 | PP0-2UF | CAMILLAS LEGACY 54 (H Cole) H Cole 7-11-0 | T J Murphy | 118 |
| 3 | 5P6P5-U | CARLINGFORD GALE 16 (F) (Mrs A Gamble) T George 7-11-0 | R Johnson | – |
| 4 | .41-F4U | CHURCHTOWN CHANCE 19 (G) (Avalon Racing) C Popham 8-11-0 | Mr O McPhail (7) | 90 |
| 5 | 00-PPP | OVERFLOWING 23 (R Mathews) A H Haney 6-11-0 | J A McCarthy | – |
| 6 | 42-32P2 | PEARL'S CHOICE 15 (BF) (Choice Sel Plans) J McConnochie 10-11-0 | S McNeill | 107 |
| 7 | 4 421-0 | PLAYING THE FOOL 68 (F) (C Bennett) C Bennett 8-11-0 | Mr P Hanly | – |
| 8 | 5-000-F | SCOBIE GIRL 19 (I McCready) J Mullins 8-11-0 | A Bates (5) | – |
| 9 | 1F-2P42 | SEYMOURSWIFT 17 (S) (Straight Racing) D Gandolfo 8-11-0 | G Bradley | 106 |
| 10 | 0-40 | SHARLEY COP 43 (Mrs E York) Miss J A Camacho 6-11-0 | E Callaghan | – |
| 11 | F-P003F | SISSINGHURST FLYER 16 (S Gifford) R Dickin 6-11-0 | S Wynne | 77 |
| 12 | 6P | VALLIS VALE 21 (S Andrews) J King 8-11-0 | J Culloty | – |
| 13 | .F-532P | WREN WARBLER 16 (S) (Mrs P Robeson) Mrs P Robeson 8-11-0 | M Richards | 106 |

BETTING: 9-4 Seymourswift, 7-2 Blast Freeze, Wren Warbler, 7-1 Pearl's Choice, 10-1 Camillas Legacy, 14-1 Sharley Cop, Sissinghurst Flyer, 33-1 others.

1997: HARVEST VIEW 7-11-0 M Berry (8-1) C Brooks 11 ran

**4.30 GUINNESS NOVICES HURDLE** (£3,778: 2m) (16 runners)

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 15 | PEKAY 40 (BF,D,S) (Moran, Nelson & Newman) M Pipe 5-11-12 | G Supple (5) | 122 |
| 2 | 1 | STAGE PASS 47 (D,G) (J Bradbury) G Barnett 5-11-12 | T J Murphy | 115 |
| 3 | 5-0004 | ANDY CLYDE 7 (Sandybrow Stables Ltd) A Bailey 5-11-5 | Gary Lyons | 80 |
| 4 | 21-03 | BIG PERKS 87 (D,F) (R Perkins) P Dalton 6-11-5 | Mr R Wakley (3) | 88 |
| 5 | 53 | FAMILY MAN 17 (Family Man Partnership) J Fanshawe 5-11-5 | A Dobbin | 88 |
| 6 | 0/T-4PP | KALADROSS 14 (R Howell) W Jenks 7-11-5 | G Hogan (3) | – |
| 7 | FPP0360 | KNOCK STAR 9 (J Marks) T Bill 7-11-5 | J R Kavanagh | 80 |
| 8 | 02 | MACHALINI 16 (Mrs A Gamble) T George 5-11-5 | S Wynne | 83 |
| 9 | 0 | MR SPECULATOR 14F (North Kilworth Racing) J Spearing 5-11-5 | D J Kavanagh (5) | – |
| 10 | | NIKIAKIS NEPHEW 63UF (J Blackshaw) C Egerton 6-11-5 | J A McCarthy | – |
| 11 | 0 | PUSHKA FAIR 16 (Manor Farm Stud (Rutland)) T Watson 7-11-5 | W Marston | – |
| 12 | 4122 | REAL ESTATE 42 (BF,D,S) (Mr J Mould) D Nicholson 4-11-2 | R Johnson | 130 |
| 13 | DR00-00 | NIRVANA PRINCESS 32 (D Portman) B Preece 6-11-0 | J Mogford (7) | 69 |
| 14 | 0 | TAKE THE CATCH 52 (D Stoddart) P R Webber 5-11-0 | R Guest | – |
| 15 | 0 | BRAVE ENVOY 49 (T Barge) M Heaton-Ellis 4-10-9 | B Powell | – |
| 16 | 04 | NORDIC CREST 7 (Silver Cod Partnership) P R Webber 4-10-9 | S McNeill | 109 |

BETTING: 11-4 Real Estate, 4-1 Family Man, 5-1 Pekay, 13-2 Stage Pass, 7-1 Machalini, 8-1 Big Perks, 12-1 Nikiakis Nephew, 20-1 others.

1997: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Lingfield Park: 2.10 Emallen, 2.40 Frankie Ferrari. 3.15 Dover Soul. Sandown Park: 4.40 Colour Code. Wolverhampton: 9.00 Golden Saddle

## RACING NEXT WEEK

MONDAY: Fontwell Park (first race, 1.50), Newcastle (2.10), Southwell (AW, 2.00)
TUESDAY: Carlisle (1.40), Warwick (1.50), Lingfield Park (AW, 2.00)
WEDNESDAY: Ascot (BBC, 1.30), Ludlow (1.40), Wolverhampton (AW, 1.50)
THURSDAY: Huntingdon (1.50), Wincanton (1.40), Lingfield (AW, 2.00)
FRIDAY: Bangor (2.00), Newbury (1.50), Southwell (2.10)
SATURDAY: Ayr (1.50), Catterick (1.35), Market Rasen (C4, 1.30), Newbury (BBC, 1.15), Lingfield Park (AW, 2.15)

*Flat meetings in bold*

REALISE YOUR DREAM OF OWNING A RACEHORSE

The Official British Horseracing Board 2 day seminar "The Thrill of Racehorse Ownership" is essential if you wish to become a successful owner. You get an impartial, informed view of racehorse ownership. Become an owner within a year, and the fee is refunded.

Reply now: very limited numbers.

RING 01753 897211 FOR A FREE COLOUR BROCHURE

NEXT SEMINAR 24 & 26 MARCH AT MIDDLEHAM
GO TO A LEADING TRAINER'S YARD.
VISIT A STUD FARM
INCLUDES A FREE AFTERNOON AT DONCASTER RACES.

RACELINE
0930 168+ COMMENTARY RESULTS
SANDOWN 101 201
UTTOXETER 102 202
WETHERBY 103 203
LINGFIELD 104 204
W'HAMPTON 105 205
IRISH 161 261
FULL RESULTS SERVICE 168

هكذا من الاصل



'Love can be a fraught business on the back of half a ton of galloping thoroughbred'



*Swings and roundabouts: what goes up the hill must come down, but there were plenty of other attractions for spectators at the point-to-point races in Horseheath, Cambridgeshire, on Saturday. Photograph: Findlay Kember*

# Sultans of horse get in the swing

## Unbridled enthusiasm, not professionalism, is the order of the day when horse-lovers gather for a point-to-point meeting

**SIMON BARNES**

**Talking horse**



Harry doesn't mind if he doesn't make the scene; he's got a daytime job, he's doing all right. But he can play the honky-tonk like anything, saving it up for Friday nights . . .

Please excuse this slightly naff epigraph, but I haven't been able to get the words out of my head ever since I went to a point-to-point meeting. It was the first time I had been to one and yet it was all deeply familiar. Hence the old Dire Straits song, *Sultans of Swing*.

I was once involved in a pub band myself, as lyricist and spectator. Each Friday night, people thronged the White Bear in Kennington, that most fashionable of venues, to listen to the songs I wrote with Mark, the lead guitarist.

And no, it wasn't exactly Steely Dan, a band then at its perihelion of fame. It was better. At least, it was in some ways: the air of the pub was filled with the sound of people who couldn't quite get over the fact that it was them up there doing it, making music, making people dance and drink and shake their heads.

The air was filled, in short, with love. My colleague on this newspaper, Philip Howard, will tell you that the word amateur means lover: *amo, amas, amat* and all that, if anyone still learns Latin or listens to Dire Straits. And though the band got paid, they were amateurs: they were in it for love. They would have done it for free. Hell, they would have paid to do it.

And point-to-point is exactly like that. True, it would have to be a very very good pub band, but still a band driven by hope and love rather than solid achievement. And it was one of the nicest afternoons out I have had in a long time.

The best sport is the best against the best. We relish the thought of Ronaldo in the World Cup this summer, Sampras at Wimbledon, or, for that matter, Atherton and Walsh, or Michelle Kwan and Elvis Stojko over the coming few days. And these top sports people certainly love what they do, but they are not lovers in the sense that point-to-pointers are lovers.

Most of us sportswriters learn the job in an arena of love. I began by writing up Redhill Football Club, those mighty Athenian Leaguers. No assignment has given me greater involvement, shown me greater kindness. The whistle blew and I was in a broom cupboard called the boardroom, discussing the Reds' latest disaster over an octuple whisky.

And so I went to Horseheath, because as a horsey person I couldn't resist the name. The meeting took place with the kind permission of E. H. Vestey Esq, MFH. A gorgeous bowl of green Vestey land, with horses racing around its rim, biting cold in bright winter sunshine. E. H. Vestey Esq, MFH, bowler-hatted and face flayed purple with the winds of a lifetime of outdoors and horses, kindly gave me welcome. Everybody kindly bade me welcome. Soon I was in a broom cupboard sipping an octuple whisky.

And so to the start, in the company of the starter. Horses wheeling about, just as they do on telly. Jockeys that little bit taller and heavier and more fraught-looking. For some reason, they were all obsessed with jumping the start, not a strictly necessary tactic on a very stiff, undulating three-mile chase.

Jumping the start is all very well, but at least wait until the starter gets to the top of his little ladder. They took off in a rush when he was halfway up. Their leader, brought to a halt by the tape, overtook his horse at a great rate but managed to land only a little on his bum and still holding the reins. "Sorry, sir."

"Don't be in such a bloody hurry. Come in sensibly this time. Sensibly! Sensibly!" And as one man, as one horse, they charged the tape and the starter let the tape go for reasons of safety. The race took off with every jockey looking at 90 degrees to the course, effing and blinding the innocent starter.

Who, of course, was also in it for love. And had a few words to say in the jockeys' room afterwards. Well, love is a fraught business, especially on the back of half a ton of galloping thoroughbred.

And the racing was great. The huge fields tend to get spreadeagled. Sometimes more than a quarter-mile separates first from last, the group at the back enjoying their own private race even as the fast horses gallop on for the actual prizes: dizzying wealth, maybe £120.

Point-to-point gets more professional by the year, they say. And the organisation was immaculate, certainly. Trade stands to buy burgers or kimblewicks (a type of bit) or hats, and swings and roundabouts, and bars and bookmakers. And it was not just for the impossibly inbred, or for the nouves in their unmuddy four-by-fours. It was just a grand horsey day and, if you like horses and outdoors and gassing and drinking and betting and wearing hats, or any four from six, then this was a good day not to miss.

When people talk about professionalism, they talk about Simon Sporborg, the superstar with superhorses, supermoney, super all-weather gallops. But no one not in point-to-point racing has any point-to-point superstars. The Sporborgs win lots of races and some people think that is great and others think they are far too serious and far too rich.

And Sporborg won on the day's banker, Rob Mine, and all his groupies — there were at least three — shouted "Come on, Simon", a heartening cry if ever there was one, as he cleared the last. But even Sporborg knows that this is all non-League football, that Horseheath is not Cheltenham or Aintree and that his fame and glory may encompass all of the Horseheath course, but nobody knows him when he has got as far as the A604.

There is one sort of professionalism. After all, you cannot be sloppy: mucking about around horses will damage people and horses both. Every horse-person is a professional in some way, in too deep financially and knowing that sober care — if you like, a properly professional approach — is an ineluctable part of the horsey life.

But then comes love. No horse-person is quite without it. You will find a streak of the amateur, of the lover, in Michael Stoute and Frankie Dettori. But here at Horseheath, love was easy to spot: professionalism, still there in large measure, was discreetly outnumbered by love.

No, it wasn't Steely Dan, or even Dire Straits. But it was here in the local pub and the band was giving it everything. Most of them had daytime jobs and some no doubt were doing all right. Music eats people up from top to bottom. There are people who can make musical instruments cry and sing and, whether they are doctors or lawyers or business executives, they save it up for Friday nights.

I can't play a note, but I know what it is to get some sort of tune from a horse. And here at Horseheath, at a much greater level of competition than I have ever managed, off they galloped, the Sultans of horse. Saving it up for Saturday afternoon . . .

## GUIDE TO THE WEEKEND FIXTURES

### FOOTBALL

*Kick-off 3.0 unless stated*

UNIBOND LEAGUE: Premier division: Alfreton v Marine; Barrow v Bamber Bridge; Boston v Blyth Spartans; Emley v Hyde; Frickley v Altrincham; Gainsborough v Chorley; Guiseley v Colwyn Bay; Leigh RMI v Bishop Auckland; Runcorn v Accrington Stanley; Spennymoor v Lancaster; Winsford v Radcliffe. First division: Belper Town v Droylsden; Buxton v Nantwich; Eastwood Town v Congleton; Great Harwood v Bradford Pk Ave; Gretna v Harrogate Town; Lincoln United v Ashton United; Stocksbridge PS v Workington; Trafford v Matlock Town; Whitley Bay v Flixton; Albion v Farsley Celtic; Worksop v Whitby.

LEAGUE OF WALES: Aberystwyth v Newtown (2.0); Barry v Ebbw Vale (2.0); Caersws v Carmarthen Town (2.30); Cemaes Ymys Mon v Connah's Quay (2.30); Flint Town v Porthmadog (2.30); Haverfordwest v Rhayader Town (2.30); Rhyl v Welshpool (2.30). TNS v Conwy (2.30).

ESSEX SENIOR LEAGUE: Premier division: Bowers v Sawbridgeworth; Burnham R v Stansted; Eton Manor v Brentwood; Ilford v Basildon U; Southend MI v Saffron Walden.

COURAGE COMBINED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Ashford v Farnham; Ash v Cranleigh; Cobham v Chipstead; Godalming and Guildford v Measham; Hartley Wintney v Cove; Raynes Park Vale v Reading Town; Sandhurst v Viking Sports; Walton Casuals v Bedfont; Westfield v Feltham.

MINERVA SPARTAN SOUTH MIDLANDS LEAGUE: Premier division south: Barkingside v Waltham Abbey; Beaconsfield v Cockfosters; Brook House v Hillingdon Boro; Harefield v Islington; Haringey Boro v Bromdown; St Margaretsbury v Amersham; Woodford v Ruislip Manor. Premier division north: Bedford v Toddington; Biggleswade v Hoddesdon; Brache Sparta v Buckingham Athletic; Harpenden v Aldersy Town; Langford v Royston; Letchworth v Milton Keynes; Welwyn Garden v London Colney.

SCREWFIX DIRECT LEAGUE: Premier division: Brislington v Barnstaple; Bridgwater v Bideford; Bridport v Chippenham; Calne v Paulton R; Elmore v Cheltl; Keynsham v Odd Down; Mangotsfield Utd v Melksham.

JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Bury Town v Felixstowe Port and; Ely v Tiptree; Great Yarmouth v Halstead; Harwich and Parkeston v Newmarket; Lowestoft v Histon; Soham v Diss; Stowmarket v Gorleston; Warboys v Wisbech.

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division: Totton v Romsey; Aerostructures v Andover; Bournemouth v Downton; Brockenhurst v AFC Newbury; Cowes Sp v Bemerton H; East Cowes v Thatcham Tn; Eastleigh v Wimborne; Gosport v Whitchurch; Portsmouth v BAT.

WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First division: Canterbury v Crockenhill; Chatham v Tunbridge Wells; Cray v Slade Gm; Erith v Corinthians; Folkestone Inv v Ramsgate; Hythe v Sheppey; Lordswood v Herne Bay; Swanley F v Greenwich; Thamesmead v Beckenham; VCD v Deal; Whitstable Tn v Faversham.

UNIJET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division: Arundel v Bexhill; Eastbourne Tn v Shoreham; Hassocks v Chichester; Mile Oak v Littlehampton; Pagham v Ringmer; Peacehaven and T v Hailsham; Redhill v Langney Sp; Saltdean v Whitehawk.

COMPLETE MUSIC HELLENIC LEAGUE: Premier division: Banbury v Almondsbury; Didcot v Tuffley; Endsleigh v Burnham; Hellen v Fairford; North Leigh v Bicester; Shortwood v Kintbury; Swindon S v Harrow Hill.

UHLSPORT UNITED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Eynesbury v L Buckby; Ford Sp v St Neots; Holbeach v Potton; Kempston v Boston; Mirrlees B v Desborough; Northampton Sp v Burnham; Wellingborough v Bourne; Wootton v Stamford; Yaxley v Cogenhoe.

INTERLINK EXPRESS ALLIANCE: Barwell v Wednesfield; Coventry Sp v Rocester; Knypersley V v Bridgnorth; Pelsall V v Kings Norton; Rushall O v Pershore T; Sandwell v Halesowen H; Shifnal T v Boldmere St M; Stratford T v Stapenhill; W Mid Police v Oldbury; Willenhall v Bilsawich Town.

ENDSLEIGH INSURANCE MIDLAND COMBINATION: Premier division: Bilston Community College v Dudley Sports; Cheslyn Hay v Handsheath Timbers; Coventry Sphinx v Malt XA; Kenilworth v Bolehall Swifts; Kings Heath v Coleshill; Knowle v Dawd Lloyd AFC; Massey Ferguson v Highgate; Stourbridge v GPT (Coventry); Wellesbourne v Alvechurch; Worcester v Studley BKL.

BANKS'S BREWERY LEAGUE: Premier division: Cradley Town v Ludlow T; Darlaston v Lye Town; Ettingshall v Stafford T; Gornal A v Brierley Hill T; Malvern T v Bustlehotme; Stourport S v Kington Town; Tividale v Wolverhampton Cs; Walsall Wood v Wolverhampton; Westfields v Bilsawich S.

ARNOTT INSURANCE NORTH LEAGUE: First division: Billingham v Penrith; Dunston Federation v Crook; Easington CWM v Consett; Jarrow Roofing v Gusborough; Morpeth v Stockton; Murton v Bedlington Terriers; RTM Newcastle v Northallerton; Shildon v South Shields.

NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Atherton LR v Salford; Burscough v Chadderton; Clitheroe v Glossop NE; Hollox OB v Vauxhall GM; Maine Road v Mossley; Newcastle Town v Prescot C; Ramsbottom v Darwen; Rossendale v Atherton Coll; St Helens v Nantwich Tn; Warrington v Newcastle Tn.

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Arnold v Dunaby; Brigg Tn v Maltby MW; Curzon Ashton v Liversedge; Eccleshill v Ponsfeast Col; Glasshoughton Wel v Ossett Tn; Hatfield M v Hallam; Ossett Alb v Armthorpe Wel; Pickering v Thackley; Sheffield v Selby.

SMARNOFF IRISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Ballymena v Ards; Cliftonville v Portadown; Coleraine v Omagh; Crusaders v Glentoran; Glenavon v Linfield. First division: Ballyclare v Dungannon Swifts; Carrick v Distillery; Limavady United v Bangor; Newry v Larne.

FAI HARP LAGER NATIONAL LEAGUE: Premier division: Kilkenny v Bohemians (7.30).

PRESS & JOURNAL HIGHLAND LEAGUE: Brora v Peterhead; Buckie Thistle v Keith; Deveronvale v Forres Mechanics; Elgin v Nairn County; Fort William v Fraserburgh; Huntly v Wick Academy; Lossiemouth v Cove; Rothes v Clachnacuddin.

### RUGBY UNION

*Kick-off 3.0 unless stated*

Five Nations Championship

France v England
(at Stade de France, 2.0).

Ireland v Scotland
(at Lansdowne Road)

Lloyds and TSB International

Wales v Italy
(at Llanelli, 5.0)

Cheltenham and Gloucester Cup
Group B

Orrell v Leicester

Group C

Waterloo v Sale (2.15)

Group D

Bedford v Blackheath (12.0)

Cambridge Univ v Richmond

Jewson National League
First division

Harrogate v Rugby (2.15)

Leeds v Newbury

London Welsh v Reading (2.30)

Morley v Nottingham

Second division north

Hinckley v Walsall (2.30)

Lichfield v Sheffield (2.30)

Nuneaton v Sandal (2.30)

Preston Grasshoppers v Aspatria

Sedgley Park v Manchester (2.15)

Stourbridge v Kendal (2.30)

Winnington Park v Birmingham/S (2.30)

Second division south

Bridgwater v Barking

Cheltenham v Tabard (2.30)

Fylde v Plymouth (2.30)

Henley v Met Police

North Walsham v Clifton (2.15)

Redruth v Havant (2.30)

Weston-super-Mare v Camberley

SOUTH WEST: First division: Bracknell v Stroud; Gloucester Old Boys v St Ives, Maidenhead v Barnstaple; Matson v Launceston; Penzance and Newlyn v High Wycombe; Torquay v Berry Hill

THWAITES NORTH: First division: Bradlington v Middlesbrough; Broughton Park v Hull Ionians; Macclesfield v Doncaster; New Brighton v Tynedale; Stockton v Wigton; Witney v West Park Bramhope

### RUGBY LEAGUE

NATIONAL CONFERENCE LEAGUE (kick-off 2.30): Premier division: Askam v Lock Lane; Beverley v West Hull; Heworth v Saddleworth; Leigh Miners v Wigan St Patrick's; Mayfield v Egremont; Oldham St Anne's v Dudley Hill; Walney Central v Woolston. First division: Millom v Thornhill, Wigan St Jude's v Rochdl.

### HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division: Isca v Gloucester City (at Exeter School, 2.0)

NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Ben Rhydding v Neston; Chester v Wigan, Harrogate v Swalwell; Norton v Durham University; Sheffield Bankers v Southport, Timperley v Formby.

DTZ DEBENHAM THORPE MIDLANDS LEAGUE: Premier division: Bloxsomfield v Bloxwich; Edgbaston v Coventry and North Warwickshire; Khalsa v North Stafford; North Notts v Hampton-in-Arden; Nottingham v Northampton Saints, Olton and West Warwickshire v Harborne.

ADNAMS EAST LEAGUE: Premier division A: Clacton v Cambridge Univ; Colchester v Cambridge C; Luton Tn v Crosby; Peterborough Tn v Ipswich; Sudbury v Bishop's Stortford. Premier division B: Ipswich and East Suffolk v Old Southwodian, Norwich City v Romford; Redbridge and Ilford v Dereham; St Ives v Bedford; West Herts v Bury St Edmunds.

ESL SOUTH LEAGUE: Premier division: Beckenham v Richmond; Bournemouth v Herne Bay; Chichester v Maidenhead, City of Portsmouth v Fareham; High Wycombe v Woking; Ramgarhia v O Whitgiftians, Trojans v Anchorians; Tunbridge Wells v Purley; Wimbledon v Eastcote; Winchester v Gore Court. Hampshire/Surrey: Andover v Dulwich; Basingstoke v Cheam, Blandford v Ewell; Hastemere v O Wellingtonians; London Univ v O Cranleighans; O Mid-Whitgiftians v Portsmouth; O Georgians v Barnes; Oxshott v Camberley, Spencer v Epsom, Kent/Sussex: Ashford v Horsham, BBHC v Marden Russets, Bexley Inv v O Holcombians, Blackheath v O Williamsonians; Brighton v Mid Sussex; Burnt Ash v Sevenoaks; Folkestone v O Boroughians; Lloyds Bank v Tulse H, Newhaven v Middleton-Bognor, Worthing v Eastbourne Middy/Berks/Bucks and Oxon: Ashford v Rickings Pk, Gerrards Cross v City of Oxford; Hayes v O Kingstonians, Hendon v Wokingham; Lons v Newbury; Marlow v Farnham C, Milton Keynes v Staines, PHC Chiswick v Sunbury; Phoenix v Amersham; W Hampstead v Bracknell.

WEST OF ENGLAND AND SOUTH WALES LEAGUE: Premier division: Bristol Univ v Exeter Univ; Chepstow v Bath Buccs; Clevedon v Swansea; Robinsons v Weston-super-Mare, Whitchurch v Taunton Vale.

WOMEN'S NATIONAL LEAGUE: Premier division: Hightown v Doncaster (12.0), Ipswich v Trojans (12.0), Olton v Clifton (2.0); Sutton Coldfield v Slough (11.30). First division: Bracknell v Canterbury (2.0), Bradford Swithenbank v Wimbledon (12.0); Chelmsford v Leicester (2.15); Loughborough Students v Bedams (2.30) Second division: Ealing v Old Loughtonians (1.30), Poynton v Blueharts (1.45), Sherwood v West Witney (12.0), Woking Swifts v Aldridge (2.0)

WOMEN'S REGIONAL LEAGUES: Midlands: Clarkson R v Leicester; Luton v Hampton; Kettering v Nth Staffs; Pickwick v Bolper North; Sheffield v Sefton; Wirrington Pk v Chester, South: Horsham v Maidenhead, Reading v Hampstead, Southampton v Dulwich; Tulse H v Hendon; Winchmore H v Winchester, West: Bournemouth v Redland; Cheltenham v St Austell; Exeter v Colwall; Exmouth v Taunton V, Yate v Leominster

### OTHER SPORT

ATHLETICS: AAA England indoor championships (in Birmingham)

BASKETBALL: Budweiser League: Watford Royals v Sheffield Sharks (7.30) Thames Valley Tigers v Newcastle Eagles (8.0); Worthing Bears v Leicester Riders (8.0).

ICE HOCKEY: Express Cup: Bracknell Bees v Newcastle Cobras (8.0) Superleague: Basingstoke Bison v Cardiff Devils (6.30); Nottingham Panthers v Ayr Scottish Eagles (7.0)

## TOMORROW

### RUGBY UNION

Cheltenham and Gloucester Cup
Group B

London Irish v Exeter (3.0)

Welsh League
First division

Newbridge v Bonymaen (3.0)

### RUGBY LEAGUE

First division

Hull KR v Leigh (3.0)

Rochdale v Hunslet (3.0)

Swinton v Keighley (3.0)

Wakefield v Widnes (3.30)

Whitehaven v Featherstone (3.30)

CLUB MATCHES: Bradford v Dewsbury (1.0); Bradford v Batley (3.0); Hull v Castleford (3.15).

### HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Premier division: Cannock v East Grinstead (at Morris Ground, 2.30); Doncaster v Hounslow (at Bennethorpe, 2.0); Old Loughtonians v Barford Tigers (at Chigwell, 2.0); Reading v Beeston (at Sonning Lane, 2.0); Southgate v Guildford (at Trent Park, 2.0); Teddington v Canterbury (at Reeds School, Cobham, 2.30). First division: Bournville v Brooklands (at King Edward's Girls School, Birmingham, 12.30); Bromley v Oxford University (at Priory Leisure Centre, Orpington, Danepark Road, 2.0); Indian Gymkhana v Firebrands (at Thornbury Ave, Isleworth, 2.30); Lewes v Harleston Magpies (at Southdown Club, 1.30); Loughborough Students v Havant (at Loughborough University, 2.30); Oxford Hawks v Chelmsford (at Banbury Road, 2.0); Sheffield v Stourport (at Abbeydale Park, 2.30); Surbiton v Blusharts (at Sugden Road, 2.30).

WOMEN'S WELSH LEAGUE: Cardiff Ath v Cardiff Institute; Colwyn Bay v Penarth; Newtown v Newport; Pontypridd v Swansea.

WOMEN'S REGIONAL LEAGUES: East: Ashford v St Albans; Cambridge C v Sevenoaks; Dereham v Welwyn Garden City; Ipswich v Bury St Edmunds North: Blackburn v Leyland M; York v Wilton.

### OTHER SPORT

ATHLETICS: AAA England indoor championships (in Birmingham).

BASKETBALL: Budweiser League: Chester Jets v London Leopards (5.30); Crystal Palace v Birmingham Bullets (6.0); Leicester Riders v Thames Valley Tigers (6.30); London Towers v Manchester Giants (5.0).

CYCLING: Perth Pedal Road Race (36 miles, at Meonstoke, Hampshire, 11.0).

ICE HOCKEY: Superleague: Ayr Scottish Eagles v Manchester Storm (6.30); Newcastle Cobras v Basingstoke Bison (6.30); Sheffield Steelers v Bracknell Bees (6.30); Cardiff Devils v Nottingham Panthers (6.30).

## SNOW REPORTS

| | Depth (cm) L | U | Conditions Piste | Off/p | Runs to resort | Weather (5pm) | °C | Last snow |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ANDORRA Soldeu | 50 | 95 | good | powder | good | sun | -4 | 3/2 |
| *(Great skiing on all slopes)* | | | | | | | | |
| AUSTRIA Obergurgl | 65 | 145 | good | varied | hard | sun | -5 | 21/1 |
| *(Man-made snow repairing patches)* | | | | | | | | |
| FRANCE Deux Alpes | 80 | 280 | good | varied | good | sun | -2 | 20/1 |
| *(Good skiing in bright sun/ cold worn spot)* | | | | | | | | |
| Flaine | 90 | 220 | good | varied | good | fine | -3 | 21/1 |

SET YOUR SIGHTS ON MORE SERIOUS GOALS NEXT WEEKEND.



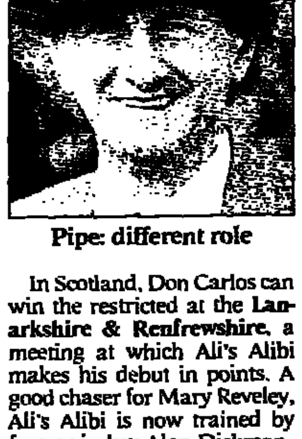
Win her over next Saturday with a beautiful Valentine's gift chosen from our range of stunning jewellery. Call 0181 905 9000 for details of your nearest store.

Ernest Jones

RACING

# Butler John returns to service

POINT-TO-POINT
BY CARL EVANS


Pipe: different role

BUTLER JOHN, the sport's national champion, makes his seasonal debut today at the North Cornwall meeting. A winner ten times in 1997, he should have little difficulty beating some ordinary opponents in the ladies' race.

The combination of pointing's unofficial champion trainer, Richard Barber, and Martin Pipe, looks irresistible in the PPORA members' race at the New Forest meeting. Yet Demoniac, who runs in Pipe's name, is no certainty and a series of falls while in training at Nicholashayne has caused Pipe to send his horse to Barber for remedial work.

Simon Sporborg will be in action at the same meeting when partnering the promising six-year-old, Rupert's Choice, in a division of the maiden. Sporborg leads the men's championship with six winners and Rupert's Choice, thought likely to relish the galloping Larkhill track, will probably add to his tally.

Firm ground is already beginning to dent trainers' plans, but Skip 'N' Time ran really well on it at Black Forest Lodge two weeks ago and can win the restricted race.

In Scotland, Don Carlos can win the restricted at the Lanarkshire & Renfrewshire, a meeting at which Ali's Alibi makes his debut in points. A good chaser for Mary Reveley, Ali's Alibi is now trained by former jockey Alan Dickman.

Another former jockey, Robert Stronge, will be at the Oxford University meeting to watch his stepson, Sam, ride Joy For Life in the maiden, for which 28 have been entered.

TODAY'S MEETINGS: Lanarks & Renfrews, Lanark, 2m S of town (first race 12.30): New Forest, Larkhill, 4m N of Amesbury (12.00): North Cornwall, Wadebridge, 1m W of town (12.00): Oxford Univ, Kingston Blount, 8m NW of High Wycombe (12.00) TOMORROW: Cambridge Univ, Cottenham, 3m N of Cambridge (12.00). Mids Area Club, Thorpe Lodge, 5m SW of Newark-on-Trent (12.00): Old Raby Hunt Club, Witton Castle, 5m W of Bishop Auckland (12.30)

## WETHERBY

THUNDERER
1.20 Invest Wisely. 1.50 Celestial Choir. 2.25 EFFECTUAL (nap). 2.55 Cattly Hang. 3.30 Wahiba Sands. 4.00 Proud Sun. 4.35 C'Est Moi Laurel.

Carl Evans: 4.00 Proud Sun.

GOING: GOOD (GOOD TO SOFT IN PLACES) SIS

**1.20 SPOFFORTH HANDICAP HURDLE** (£3,935: 2m 7f) (6 runners)

1 1164 SPENDID 21 (G,S) D Nicholson 6-11-11 ... R Thornton
2 45-2 OLYMPIAN 84 (B,F,G) J Neville 11-11-0 ... Mr S Durack (5)
3 0-25 WHAT'S YOUR STORY 15 (S) P R Webber 9-10-10 ... R Garritty
4 4060 MR CHRISTIE 4 (G,S) Miss L Siddall 6-10-0 ... M Foster
5 4-34 INVEST WISELY 21 (F) M Hammond 6-10-0 ... N Horrocks (5)
6 5114 KINDA GROOVY 43 (B,F,G) I Park 9-10-0 ... N Smith

9-4 Spendid, 7-2 Invest Wisely, 4-1 What's Your Story, 5-1 Olympian, 7-1 Mr Christie, 8-1 Kinda Groovy

**1.50 SKIPTON NOVICES CHASE** (£3,585: 2m 4f 110yd) (4)

1 0-11 CELESTIAL CHOIR 21 (D,F,G,S) J Eyre 8-11-8 ... B Storey
2 115- BOBBY GRANT 329 (BF,D,G,S) C Grant 7-11-3 ... L Wyer
3 0336 NEWTON MIST 75 Mrs S Smith 7-11-3 ... G F Ryan (5)
4 -500 MR BRUNO 14 M Barnes 5-10-7 ... S Taylor (3)

2-9 Celestial Choir, 4-1 Bobby Grant, 16-1 Newton Mist, 50-1 Mr Bruno

**2.25 RIEVAULX HANDICAP HURDLE** (£5,456: 2m) (8)

1 3655 PROFLUENT 7 (S) M Hammond 7-12-0 ... D Bentley
2 -2FF MULLIGAN 21 (D,F,G,S) D Nicholson 8-12-0 ... R Thornton
3 -221 NIGEL'S LAD 53 (D,G) P Haslam 6-11-8 ... M Foster
4 -30P STASH THE CASH 43 (D,F,G,S) M Hammond 7-10-13 ... R Garritty
5 1050 DESERT MOUNTAIN 28 (CD,F,G,S) N Callaghan 5-10-12 ... P Carberry
6 132- BREAK THE RULES 17F (BF,D,G,S) D Nicholls 6-10-6 ... F Leahy (3)
7 2111 ONCE MORE FOR LUCK 17F (CD,F,G,S) Mrs M Reveley 7-10-5 ... G Lee
8 3112 EFFECTUAL 32 (G,S) Miss V Williams 5-10-5 ... S Kelly (7)

3-1 Nigel's Lad, 4-1 Mulligan, 9-2 Effectual, 5-1 Once More For Luck, 6-1 Desert Mountain, 8-1 Break The Rules, 10-1 Stash The Cash, 25-1 Profluent.

**2.55 MARSTON MOOR HANDICAP CHASE** (£8,091: 2m 4f 110yd) (6)

1 346- SCOTTON BANKS 371 (CD,G,S) T Easterby 9-12-0 ... R Garritty
2 1101 CUMBRIAN CHALLENGE 7 (CD,F,G,S) T Easterby 9-11-8 ... L Wyer
3 P12- ALL THE ACES 332 (D,G,S) J J O'Neill 11-11-3 ... P Carberry
4 0023 KADI 21 (D,G,S) D Nicholson 9-10-6 ... R Thornton
5 0-21 CATTLY HANG 23 (CD,S) J Leigh 8-10-0 ... Mr S Durack (5)
6 /1/P SHINING FOUNTAIN 43 (G,S) D M Forster 9-10-0 ... B Storey

2-1 Cumbrian Challenge, 11-4 Cattly Hang, 3-1 Kadi, 11-2 All The Aces, 10-1 Scotton Banks, 33-1 Shining Fountain.

**3.30 ROSSINGTON MAIN NOVICES HURDLE** (Grade II: £8,918: 2m) (5)

1 -114 CIRCUS STAR 49 (D,G) D Nicholson 5-11-12 ... R Thornton
2 11 WAHIBA SANDS 49 (D,S) J Dunlop 5-11-12 ... P Carberry
3 5-8 CHINA CASTLE 3F (BF) P Haslam 5-11-5 ... M Foster
4 122 FOUNDRY LANE 43 (BF,D,G) Mrs M Reveley 7-11-5 ... L Wyer
5 1 TROOPER 35 (D,G) M Hammond 4-10-9 ... R Garritty

4-6 Wahiba Sands, 9-2 Foundry Lane, 5-1 Circus Star, 8-1 Trooper, 20-1 China Castle

**4.00 HAROLD CHARLTON MEMORIAL HUNTERS CHASE** (Amateurs: £1,224: 3m 1f) (6)

1 22P- HIGHLANDMAN 294 (F,S) J Haldane 12-12-4 ... C Wilson (7)
2 31/1 PROUD SUN 21P (D,F,G,S) S Pike 10-12-4 ... S Durack (5)
3 /11- TEETON MILL 340 (G,S) Caroline Bailey 9-12-4 ... B Pollock (5)
4 3/5- CATCHAPENNY 362 (B,D,G,S) Mrs D Turner 13-11-10 ... W Tellwright (7)
5 F/6- POSTAGE STAMP 603 (BF,F,G) F Murphy 11-11-10 ... M Bradburne (5)
6 P24- SHUIL SAOR 252 (G) Miss P Fitton 11-11-10 ... C Mulhall (7)

4-7 Proud Sun, 3-1 Teeton Mill, 8-1 Postage Stamp, 16-1 Highlandman, 25-1 Catchapenny, Shuil Saor.

**4.35 WEATHERBYS STARS OF TOMORROW OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE** (£1,434: 2m) (22)

1 10 LUGGSY 99 (D,G) N Twiston-Davies 6-11-11 ... L Suthern (7)
2 1 MR BUSBY 21 (D,S) Mrs M Reveley 5-11-11 ... M Herrington (7)
3 BALLINA BOY J FitzGerald 5-11-4 ... F Leahy (3)
4 CAMDEN FELLOW Mrs M Jones 5-11-4 ... M Dunne (5)
5 3 CHOICE CUT 14 T Caldwell 5-11-4 ... D Pears
6 P CRAZY HORSE 7 L Lungo 5-11-4 ... Mr B Gibson (7)
7 2 MR JAKE 105 H Haynes 5-11-4 ... R Thornton
8 NATIVE RECRUIT D Nicholson 5-11-4 ... R Massey (3)
9 OTTERBURN LAD Mrs J Brown 5-11-4 ... B Storey
10 0 SHAGREEN 56 J Dunlop 5-11-4 ... Mr H Dunlop (7)
11 4 SPOOF'S MY GAME 14 T Easterby 5-11-4 ... L Wyer
12 026 TELL MONTY 21 Mrs J Brown 6-11-4 ... Mr S Durack (5)
13 1 C'EST MOI LAUREL 32 (D,S) Miss V Williams 4-11-1 ... P Carberry
14 0-0 GEM OF HOLLY 75 R Wood 5-10-13 ... M Newton (7)
15 VALLEY OF HOPE Mrs M Reveley 5-10-13 ... G Lee
16 BRAVE MAN M W Easterby 4-10-8 ... P Midgley (3)
17 HARDACRE T Tate 4-10-8 ... R Garritty
18 HELMSLEY FLIER T Easterby 4-10-8 ... S Ryan (5)
19 OWTABEATIM R Woodhouse 4-10-8 ... W Dwan
20 ROCKY MY BOY Mrs S Smith 4-10-8 ... G F Ryan (5)
21 WILL SCARLET J K Cresswell 4-10-8 ... M Berry (7)
22 ALU-LADY M W Easterby 4-10-3 ... R Supple

7-2 C'Est Moi Laurel, 6-1 Native Recruit, 7-1 Mr Busby, 8-1 Luggsy, 10-1 Spoof's My Game, 12-1 Valley Of Hope, Helmsley Flier, 14-1 others.

**COURSE SPECIALISTS**

TRAINERS: P Webber, 3 winners from 6 runners, 50.0%; D Nicholson, 17 from 64, 26.6%, T Easterby, 23 from 92, 25.0%, N Twiston-Davies, 4 from 20, 20.0%, Mrs M Reveley, 33 from 168, 19.6%, J Eyre, 4 from 21, 19.0%, F Murphy, 3 from 16, 18.8%.

JOCKEYS: Mr S Durack, 3 winners from 11 rides, 27.3%; P Carberry, 14 from 57, 24.6%; L Wyer, 34 from 141, 24.1%, S Taylor, 3 from 18, 16.7%, R Garritty, 14 from 132, 10.6%; F Leahy, 4 from 39, 10.3%.

# Aspell sets sights on Cheltenham return

LEIGHTON ASPELL faces a race against time to be fit for the Cheltenham Festival, which begins on March 17. The conditional jockey broke his collarbone and three ribs in a fall at Towcester on Thursday, his first ride back after having his licence suspended by the Jockey Club.

"He is at home and as well as can be expected," his agent, Graeme James, said yesterday. "He is likely to be out for four to six weeks. He broke his collarbone in December, but that was just a hairline fracture and it wasn't displaced: this is worse."

## LINGFIELD PARK

THUNDERER
1.40 Appyabo. 2.10 Head Gardener. 2.40 Nisaba. 3.15 Slim Prior. 3.45 Barbason. 4.20 Witchfinder.

GOING: SLOW SIS
DRAW: 7F-1M, LOW NUMBERS BEST

**1.40 HELEN McINNES MAIDEN STAKES** (3-Y-O: £3,501: 1m 2f) (6 runners)

1 2-22 APPYABO 11 M Quinn 9-0 ... A Whelan 6
2 4864 FALKENBERG 4 (B) B Pearce 9-0 ... C Lowther (3) 2
3 245- NARROGIN 100 M Channon 9-0 ... A Mackay 3
4 04 NETTA RUFINA 9 M Johnston 9-0 ... Dean McKeown 4
5 6-6 SHIRA-A 30 M Polglase 9-0 ... N Adams 5
6 2 EASY VIRTUE 18 (BF) G L Moore 8-9 ... Candy Morris 1

7-4 Appyabo, 9-4 Narrogin, 5-1 Easy Virtue, Netta Rufina, 13-1 Falkenberg, Shira-a

**2.10 AGATHA CHRISTIE SELLING HANDICAP** (£1,889: 1m 5f) (10)

1 00-0 AS-IS 37 (C,F) M Johnston 4-9-12 ... D Holland 7
2 1/0P MILNGAVIE 23 (C,F,S) B McMath 8-9-7 ... Declan O'Shea 3
3 4223 HEAD GARDENER 8 (B) N Littmoden 4-9-6 ... S Whitworth 5
4 260- FOLEYS QUEST 42J J S Moore 4-9-3 ... P P Murphy (3) 6
5 /60- ROWLANDSONS CHARM 74 (V,C) Miss B Sanders 5-9-2 ... A Clark 8
6 000/ EMALLEN 43J (V) Mrs L Jewell 10-9-2 ... Dane O'Neill 4
7 030- KIKA 102 (G) K Burke 5-8-12 ... D Sweeney (3) 2
8 05-5 STAR WITNESS 15 (F,G) A Newcombe 6-8-9 ... M Beard (3) 9
9 0/06 WILD HADEER 19 J Upson 4-8-4 ... A McCarthy (5) 10
10 20-0 SIDE BAR 35 (V,CD,F) K Comerford 8-7-13 ... P Doe (7) 1

11-4 Head Gardener, 7-2 Star Witness, 4-1 Rowlandsons Charm, 6-1 Foleys Quest, Wild Hadeer, 12-1 Kika, 20-1 As-Is, Milngavie, Side Bar, 33-1 Emallen.

**2.40 MARGERY ALLINGHAM HANDICAP** (3-Y-O: £3,436: 1m 2f) (6)

1 -221 MYSTAGOGUE 11 (CD) R Hannon 9-7 ... P Dobbs (7) 3
2 -241 GLIDER 7 (C) N Littmoden 9-6 ... S Whitworth 2
3 -111 NISABA 21 (CD) J S Moore 9-6 ... P P Murphy (3) 5
4 646- ARCTIC STAR 95 M Channon 9-5 ... P Cleary (7) 1
5 04-0 GENIUS 37 S Dow 9-1 ... W Ryan 6
6 000- FRANKIE FERRARI 116 (V) D Loder 8-11 ... K Fallon 4

2-1 Nisaba, 3-1 Mystagogue, Frankie Ferrari, 5-1 Glider, 8-1 Arctic Star, 20-1 Genius.

**3.15 GEORGETTE HEYER CLAIMING LIMITED STAKES** (3-Y-O: £2,211: 7f) (5)

1 0-11 MEANS BUSINESS 2 (CD,F) J Hetherton 9-1 ... T Siddall (7) 1
2 -113 FAST FRANC 1 (S) S C Williams 8-11 ... D Williams (7) 4
3 4-64 SLIM PRIOR 7 (CD) K Burke 8-9 ... D Sweeney (3) 5
4 00-0 DOVER SOUL 18 (B) P Makin 8-2 ... J Quinn 3
5 0-32 MISS SKYE 4 T Naughton 8-2 ... A McCarthy (5) 2

6-4 Fast Franc, 11-4 Means Business, 9-2 Slim Prior, 6-1 Miss Skye, 7-1 Dover Soul.

**3.45 EVELYN ANTHONY HANDICAP** (£3,404: 1m) (6)

1 -142 PLAN FOR PROFIT 14 (CD,F,G) M Johnston 4-10-0 ... Dean McKeown 3
2 1411 URSA MAJOR 9 (CD) C Allen 4-9-11 ... R Studholme (7) 4
3 2162 BARBASON 2 (CD,F) G L Moore 6-9-3 ... Candy Morris 6
4 -001 BLUE FLYER 11 (B,CD,F) R Ingram 5-8-11 ... A McGlone 5
5 26-6 KARL 9 (CD) J Bridger 4-8-10 ... D Harrison 2
6 136- BALLIEBOROUGH BOY 330 (D) D O'Brien 4-8-6 ... G Bardwell 1

13-8 Ursa Major, 2-1 Plan For Profit, 7-2 Barbason, 11-2 Blue Flyer, 10-1 Ballieborough Boy, 20-1 Karl.

**4.20 DOROTHY L SAYERS HANDICAP** (£2,885: 7f) (8)

1 1-11 WITCHFINDER 7 (V,CD) Miss L Stubbs 8-10-0 ... S Whitworth 6
2 3643 SCISSOR RIDGE 4 (CD,F) J Bridger 6-9-13 ... R Studholme (7) 5
3 2-41 MR PARADISE 36 (D,F,S) R Cowell 4-9-7 ... W Ryan 2
4 2221 CASTLE ASHBY JACK 7 (CD) P Howling 4-9-3 ... D Holland 3
5 00-0 DAYRELLA 11 (C,F) W Muir 4-8-10 ... K Fallon 8
6 0-03 AXEMAN 10 (F) N Littmoden 6-7-13 ... A Daly (5) 7
7 6065 OUR SHADEE 11 (V,C,D,F,G) K Ivory 8-7-10 ... Martin Dwyer 1
8 -000 INTO DEBT 11 (V,CD) J Poulton 5-7-10 ... DOUBTFUL 4

5-2 Witchfinder, 3-1 Scissor Ridge, 7-2 Mr Paradise, 6-1 Axeman, 7-1 Dayrella, 8-1 Castle Ashby Jack, 20-1 Our Shadee

**COURSE SPECIALISTS**

TRAINERS: D Loder, 19 winners from 49 runners, 38.8%; N Littmoden, 7 from 29, 24.1%; M Johnston, 50 from 280, 17.9%; R Hannon, 46 from 334, 13.8%; P Makin, 11 from 80, 13.8%; R Ingram, 26 from 198, 13.1%.

JOCKEYS: R Studholme, 5 winners from 19 rides, 26.3%; K Fallon, 14 from 55, 25.5%; P Dobbs, 5 from 22, 22.7%; D Holland, 41 from 199, 20.6%; C Lowther, 10 from 56, 17.9%; W Ryan, 26 from 165, 15.8%.

## WOLVERHAMPTON

THUNDERER
7.00 Big Bang. 7.30 Elite Hope. 8.00 Time To Fly. 8.30 Hopeful Star. 9.00 Chahaya Timor. 9.30 Mazeed.

GOING: STANDARD DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE

**7.00 CHATEAU HANDICAP** (£2,085: 1m 4f) (12 runners)

1 643/ ALBEMINE 58J (BF,S) R Jackes 9-10-0 ... F Lynch 2
2 0-55 KOMREYEV DANCER 12 (BF,C,F,G) A Bailey 6-9-12 ... K Hodgson 9
3 000- JACK THE LAD 84 (F,G,S) J Hetherton 4-9-11 ... T Siddall (7) 1
4 00-4 BIG BANG 12 (C,D) M Blanchard 4-9-11 ... J Quinn 12
5 000- ORDAINED 56 (D,F) E Alston 5-9-4 ... Melanie Warden (7) 10
6 20-4 ROUND ROBIN 17 (B) C Thornton 4-9-3 ... Dean McKeown 3
7 4-45 ZERMATT 5 (B,F,S) M Usher 8-9-3 ... M Rimmer 6
8 04-2 AFRICAN-PARD 19 (F,S) D Haydn Jones 6-8-10 ... T Williams 4
9 62-6 GROVEFAIR LAD 38 S Bowring 4-8-10 ... C Teague (3) 5
10 04-0 KUSTOM KIT KLASSIC 8 S Bowring 4-8-8 ... Dale Gibson 7
11 0-15 AWAFEH 8 (V,D) S Mellor 5-8-8 ... P Fessey (3) 8
12 0-65 FOOLISH FLUTTER 8 (B,D,G) R Bastiman 4-8-7 ... L Charnock 11

7-2 African-Pard, 6-1 Komreyev Dancer, 7-1 Big Bang, Round Robin, Grovefair Lad, 8-1 Zermatt, 10-1 Albemine, 12-1 others.

**7.30 CASTLE CLAIMING STAKES** (£2,085: 6f) (8)

1 3-24 MIKE'S DOUBLE 24 (B,BF,CD) Miss G Kelleway 4-9-2 ... K Fallon 6
2 -011 ELITE HOPE 10 (CD,G) N Tinkler 6-9-0 ... Dean McKeown 3
3 /0-0 YOUNG BENSON 10 (B,C,F) T Wall 6-8-13 ... L Newton 4
4 106- ITALIAN SYMPHONY 43 (V,CD) P Evans 4-8-11 ... A McCarthy (5) 2
5 -626 MULLAGH HILL LAD 14 (B,C) N Littmoden 5-8-11 ... S Whitworth 5
6 016- DIVINE MISS-P 142 (D,F,G,S) A Jarvis 5-8-10 ... D Sweeney (3) 1
7 0-05 C-HARRY 10 (CD,G,S) R Hollinshead 4-8-9 ... F Lynch 7
8 06-4 TICKA TICKA TIMING 5 (D) B Murray 5-8-3 ... S Righton (7) 8

11-8 Elite Hope, 9-2 Italian Symphony, 5-1 Mike's Double, Divine Miss-P, 10-1 C-Harry, 14-1 Mullagh Hill Lad, 16-1 Ticka Ticka Timing, 33-1 Young Benson

**8.00 PROVINCIAL RACING CREDIT CENTRE HANDICAP** (£3,371: 6f) (4)

1 -111 TIME TO FLY 14 (B,CD) B Murray 5-10-0 ... D Sweeney (3) 4
2 01-0 DOUBLE-O 19 (CD) W Jarvis 4-9-13 ... S Sanders 3
3 000- ANTONIAS MELODY 51 (D,B,S) S Bowring 5-9-10 ... C Teague (3) 1
4 -52-4 EASTERN PROPHETS 37 (BF,D,F,S) G Lewis 5-9-5 ... A Clark 2

5-6 Time To Fly, 2-1 Eastern Prophets, 9-2 Double-O, 25-1 Antonias Melody

**8.30 LODGE STAKES** (£2,788: 1m 1f 79yd) (8)

1 0/0 KARADENI 31 R Hollinshead 4-9-12 ... S Clarke (7) 5
2 ABSOLUTE BREEZE I Williams 4-9-7 ... A Clark 1
3 0- JANARA 151 J Pearce 4-9-7 ... G Bardwell 2
4 46 BIN FAA 14 J Scargill 3-8-5 ... J Quinn 3
5 36-3 HOPEFUL STAR 7 Miss G Kelleway 3-8-5 ... C Lowther (3) 7
6 54-3 NAKED OAT 8 B Smart 3-8-5 ... J Stack 6
7 -22 SOME MIGHT SAY 4 (BF) M Johnston 3-8-5 ... J Fanning 4
8 00-3 WROUGHT IRON 14 M Bell 3-8-0 ... P Fessey (3) 8

7-4 Some Might Say, 5-2 Naked Oat, 4-1 Wrought Iron, 6-1 Hopeful Star, 10-1 Bin Faa, 25-1 Absolute Breeze, 33-1 Karadeni, Janara.

**9.00 MAISON SELLING STAKES** (£1,738: 2m 46yd) (8)

1 2/41 CHAHAYA TIMOR 10 (C) Miss S Wilton 6-9-9 ... S Whitworth 7
2 0 FRANKIE HARRY 33 A Carroll 6-9-5 ... R Studholme (7) 3
3 40/2 LANCER 10 (F) R Juckes 6-9-5 ... F Lynch 4
4 /624 ZESTI 12 P Howling 6-9-5 ... J Quinn 1
5 000- DAFFODIL EXPRESS 11J M Ryan 5-9-0 ... P McCabe (3) 2
6 00-5 ILANDRA 9 C Popham 6-9-0 ... S Sanders 5
7 0-02 FLOTILLA 19 (V) S Mellor 4-8-13 ... G Bardwell 6
8 66-4 GOLDEN SADDLE 10 (B) D Wintle 4-8-13 ... Joanna Badger (7) 6

2-5 Chahaya Timor, 7-1 Flotilla, 8-1 Lancer, 14-1 Zesti, Golden Saddle, 25-1 Ilandra, 33-1 Frankie Harry, Daffodil Express.

**9.30 PROVINCIAL RACING NORTH STAFFS LEADING INDEPENDENT HANDICAP** (£2,671: 1m 1f 79yd) (9)

1 1-10 MAZEED 14 (V,BF,CD,F) P Evans 5-10-0 ... A McCarthy (5) 8
2 -213 BE WARNED 8 (V,BF,F,G) J Pearce 7-9-6 ... K Fallon 3
3 002- INDIAN BLAZE 198 P Harris 4-8-13 ... C Lowther (3) 6
4 000- MELLORS 47J (G) M Heaton-Ellis 5-8-13 ... S Drowne 2
5 -004 NEVER THINK TWICE 8 (B,F) Mrs A E Johnson 5-8-10 ... J Quinn 7
6 6-32 LOCH STYLE 24 (C,F) R Hollinshead 5-8-6 ... F Lynch 4
7 0-62 CHARLIE CHANG 14 B Llewellyn 5-7-11 ... Declan O'Shea 1
8 000- NORTHERN JUDGE 11J (B) A James 5-7-10 ... R Brisland (7) 5
9 000- NOBLE CANONIRE 222 D Wintle 6-7-10 ... Joanna Badger (7) 9

7-2 Charlie Chang, 4-1 Mazeed, 6-1 Be Warned, Loch Style, 7-1 Never Think Twice, 8-1 Indian Blaze, Northern Judge, 10-1 others.

**COURSE SPECIALISTS**

TRAINERS: W Jarvis, 9 winners from 27 runners, 33.3%; B Murray, 3 from 11, 27.3%; M Johnston, 55 from 250, 22.0%; M Bell, 14 from 65, 21.5%; J Pearce, 12 from 68, 17.6%.

JOCKEYS: S Righton, 3 winners from 17 rides, 17.6%; D Sweeney, 13 from 74, 17.6%; M Rimmer, 6 from 42, 14.3%; K Fallon, 14 from 101, 13.9%; C Lowther, 7 from 58, 12.1%.

## RESULTS FROM YESTERDAY'S THREE MEETINGS

### Catterick

Going: good (soft in places)

2.00 (2m 3f hdle) 1, Jessica One (P Niven, 7-4 fav); 2, Redsway (16-1); 3, Glenbower (5-2). 12 ran. 3l, 1l. Mrs M Reveley. Tote: £3.10; £1.30, £11.30, £1.10. DF: £46.50. Trio: £104.50. CSF: £31.12

2.30 (3m 1f 110yd ch) 1, Lord Fortune (R Garritty, 7-2); 2, Apache Raider (33-1); 3, Hardecent (5-1). Dawn Mission 9-4 fav. 11 ran. NR: Carley Lad, Malachon. 3½l, hd. M Hammond. Tote: £5.00; £1.60, £4.30, £2.30. DF: £84.00. Trio: £96.90. CSF: £101.18.

3.00 (2m 3f hdle) 1, Recruitment (N Horrocks, 11-2); 2, One Stop (7-2 jt-fav); 3, Malhabad (20-1); 4, Gone Away (20-1). Highfield Pet (6th) 7-2 jt-fav. 17 ran. 12l, hd. J Turner. Tote: £5.90; £1.50, £2.10, £3.60, £4.90. DF: £7.80. Trio: £179.60. CSF: £24.33. Tricast: £362.72. Bought in 6,000 gns.

3.30 (2m 3f ch) 1, Neftegnty (W Marston, 3-1); 2, Mr Fudge (6-1); 3, Woodbridge (8-1). Shining Edge 2-1 fav. 5 ran. 1¾l, 1¼l. Mrs P Sly. Tote: £3.30; £1.30, £2.90. DF: £7.40. CSF: £15.01

4.00 (3m 1f 110yd hdle) 1, Arctic Fox (P Niven, 4-1 fav); 2, Noddle (5-1); 3, Riot Leader (5-1). 11 ran. NR: Nasayer, Weather Wise. ½l, 6l. Mrs M Reveley. Tote: £4.10; £1.40, £2.90, £2.30. DF: £20.10. Trio: £17.10. CSF: £25.89. Tricast: £100.83

4.30 (2m hdle) 1, Count Tony (R Garritty, 4-5 fav); 2, Panooras Lord (33-1); 3, Blowing Away (7-2). 10 ran. 7l, ¾l. M Hammond. Tote: £1.60; £1.10, £9.50, £1.70. DF: £74.10. Trio: £207.10. CSF: £42.62.

Jackpot: £506.50.

Placepot: £19.00. Quadpot: £7.60.

### Lingfield Park

Going: soft

1.40 (2m 3f 110yd hdle) 1, Gallant Taffy (A P McCoy, 2-1 fav); 2, Illuminate (6-1); 3, Murray's Million (5-1); 4, Sharakanndi (9-1). 17 ran. NR: Palace Parade. 3½l, 10l. M Pipe. Tote: £2.90; £1.20, £1.40, £1.70, £1.90. DF: £13.00. Trio: £11.90. CSF: £16.55. Tricast: £60.42.

2.10 (2m ch) 1, Champleve (A P McCoy, 4-7 fav); 2, Gipsy Geof (7-1); 3, Mouse Bird (15-8). 5 ran. 5l, 11l. M Pipe. Tote: £1.60; £1.20, £1.80. DF: £3.80. CSF: £5.38.

2.40 (2m 3f 110yd hdle) 1, Borazon (C Llewellyn, 2-5 fav); 2, Aboo Hom (13-2); 3, Tyrolean Dream (5-1). 7 ran. NR: Announcing. 4l, dist. N Twiston-Davies. Tote: £1.30; £1.10, £3.60. DF: £3.40. CSF: £3.62.

3.10 (2m 110yd hdle) 1, The Executor (C Llewellyn, 100-30); 2, Mega Tid (7-1); 3, Lucy Tufty (7-2). Hever Golf Diamond 3-1 fav. 8 ran. 2l, 7l. R O'Sullivan. Tote: £4.10; £2.00, £1.70, £1.70. DF: £16.00. CSF: £25.93. Tricast: £81.14. No bid.

3.40 (3m ch) 1, Orswell Lad (Mr R Widger, 6-4 fav); 2, Call Home (10-1); 3, Foodbroker Star (11-4). 5 ran. 3½l, 25l. P Hobbs. Tote: £2.20; £1.10, £3.80. DF: £12.40. CSF: £13.08

4.10 (2m 110yd hdle) 1, Simons Castle (N Williamson, 5-4 fav, Thunderer's nap); 2, Bahamian Knight (15-8); 3, Royal Scimitar (12-1). 16 ran. Nk, 13l. R O'Sullivan. Tote: £2.30; £1.10, £1.60, £2.10. DF: £2.00. Trio: £5.70. CSF: £3.67.

4.40 (2m 3f 110yd hdle) 1, Mon Amie (A Thornton, 7-1); 2, Normena (10-1); 3, Equity's Darling (16-1). Take Cover 9-4 fav. 10 ran. 13l, 11l. A Hobbs. Tote: £8.60; £2.30, £2.60, £2.40. DF: £53.10. Trio: £190.90. CSF: £74.28. Tricast: £1,018.18

Placepot: £7.70. Quadpot: £3.30.

### Southwell

Going: standard

1.50 (1m) 1, Dancing Rio (C Lowther, 8-1); 2, Danzino (Evens fav); 3, Poetto (7-1). 11 ran. 2l, ½l. P Haslam. Tote: £10.10; £1.70, £1.20, £1.90. DF: £5.70. Trio: £8.40. CSF: £15.88. Tricast: £61.93.

2.20 (1m) 1, Rock Island Line (P Bradley, 5-1); 2, Yeoman Oliver (3-1); 3, Pine Ridge Lad (7-1). 9 ran. Hd, 8l. J Berry. Tote: £5.60; £2.10, £1.10, £3.30. DF: £9.80. Trio: £20.20. CSF: £19.59. Yeoman Oliver finished first but after a stewards' inquiry was placed second.

2.50 (6f) 1, Ok Babe (D Biggs, 6-1); 2, Eminent (15-8 fav); 3, Fast Franc (9-2). 11 ran. NR: Rockswain. Nk, 1l. J Akehurst. Tote: £5.90; £2.40, £1.60, £1.20. DF: £5.30. Trio: £5.30. CSF: £16.51. Tricast: £55.75.

3.20 (1m 3f) 1, Wild Canary (W Ryan, 12-1); 2, Miracle Island (1-5 fav); 3, Highbury Legend (25-1). 6 ran. 2l, 22l. Lord Huntingdon. Tote: £13.20; £3.00, £1.10. DF: £4.50. CSF: £14.06.

3.50 (1m 3f) 1, Pickens (Kim Tinkler, 5-2); 2, Errant (9-1); 3, Ruth's Gamble (33-1). State Approval 11-10 fav. 13 ran. ¾l, 10l. E Incisa. Tote: £4.50; £1.30, £2.60, £3.20. DF: £20.10. Trio: £42.60. CSF: £24.00.

4.20 (1m 4f) 1, Evezio Rufo (P Roberts, 7-2); 2, Moonraking (2-1 fav); 3, Field Of Vision (7-2). 6 ran. 6l, 5l. N Littmoden. Tote: £3.70; £1.10, £1.70. DF: £3.10. CSF: £10.52.

Placepot: £7.20. Quadpot: £2.60


ALFA ROMEO

GTV 2.0 '97, Red, Leather, air con, BS roof, 5,000 miles, special plate. £21,995. 01276 23306.

SPIDER 1996 Lusso. Silver, LHD, air con, cd, leather seats, £19,500. 01732 834154

GTV Lusso 2.0 twin spark TS 16V '97 P. Silver, 28K, FSH. 1 private owner from new. Co. Car forces sale. £18,195 ono. Tel: 01276 501017/ 0370 573201

Alfa Romeo Approved Used Cars
145 146 155 164 GTV SPIDER
The heart of Alfa Romeo in the heart of London
Call FREE on 0800 456 800

AC

AC Cobra LWT, (90G), 700 miles, £52,000. In a stunning colour combination. Graypaul 01509 232 233.

MOTORS

VEHICLE LIFTS
Reconditioned 2 and 4 post ramps from £800 + V.A.T. New ramps available from £1,950 + V.A.T. Garage equipment bought for cash.
Engineering Garage Services. For sales and service telephone 01442 863938 or 0973 222896

ASTON MARTIN

DB7 Auto (96P) BRG Metallic, Parchment piped Green, CD Stack, 8,000 miles. £69,750. Graypaul 01509 232 233.

DB7 wanted urgently. Please call Jeremy Mallett 01949 861289.

CLASSIC CARS

E-TYPE CENTRE 50 E-Types always in Stock. Sensibly Priced. Buying or Selling. Tel for info pack. 01827 373247.

CLASSIC CARS

WESTFIELD 2.0i Turbo. Ford Eng. road reg. intercooler, var rev limiter & boost. FIA approved harness & roll. 5 speed short shift. 225 Pzero tyres. £12,000ono. 01484 608847/0498 798414

MG TF 1954, 3 owners only, LHD, Excellent Condition, Scored for last 7 years. Bargain £9500. No Offers. 01932 227153

PANTHER KALISTA (Brooklands) 2.8L, 1987, 1 owner, 10,000 miles, top spec. £12,000ono. Tel: 01538 385825

FORD

Ford cars nearly new from Scorpio to Fiesta. Lowest prices 01565 652767/01733 352500

SCORPIO ULTIMA, 2.0, 1996N, auto, Black leather, CD player, every extra. 30,000 miles, £11,950. Tel: 01922 406091.

FORD

BRAND NEW
FIESTAS, PUMA'S, ESCORTS, MONDEOS & GALAXYS up to £4,000 off main dealer prices
Access Car Consultants Ltd. Tel:0181 6601520

FERRARI

512TR Red, Cream, Red. 93L, ABS, FFSH, 22,000 miles, sports exhaust, CD, recent Cam belt. Excellent cond. 0121 4644371 or 01902 876007. £78,000.

CITROËN

CITROEN XM ESTATES (EX DEMOS AT XANTIA PRICES)
JUST £12,995 UNDER 500 MILES 24 Mth WARRANTY AVAILABLE NOW!
MANY OTHER XMS FROM £6,995
• XM 2.0 SI TURBO SALOON £8,995
• XM 2.0 SX AUTO ESTATE £11,495
• XM 2.1 TD VSX, DEL MILES £14,995
• XM 2.1 TD AUTO ESTATE £15,495
BROAD'S MOTOR GROUP 0800 435933 0800 838972

Graypaul A Sytner Company
LIMITED EDITION — 2+2 12 CYLINDER — 12 CYLINDER — F355 — 348 — 328 GTS/GTB — CLASSIC — URGENTLY WANTED

FIAT

VERY-HUGE Savings on Brand New Fiats for Private Buyers. Tel: 0171 603 6969 T.

FOUR WHEEL DRIVE WANTED

1988 1995 Top prices paid for all low mileage 4x4's. Mole Valley Motor Group 01372 749090.

HARLEY DAVIDSON

FAT BOY '95 black, 1,200 mls, extras. Perfect condition. £10,500. 01273 492662.

HONDA

CIVIC COUPE LSI Manual, 11,600 mls, metallic green, alarm, owner emigrating. £9,000. 0181 459 1891/0956 578212.

HONDA NSX

NSX T-Bar, Man, 96N, Formula Red / black lthr, 1 own, 6K, FSH. Only £56,999. Brindley Honda Staffs 01543 506999 T.

JAGUAR & DAIMLER

XJ6 3.2 Auto. 96 N. Beige, air con, lthr, 38k, immaculate £22,750 01572 823138 (Rutland).

XJ8 Coupe, P Reg, 1997, 7,700 mls. 1 owner. Mfg. guarantee. Sapphire Blue. Classic Leather Pack - Cruise - Full Size Spare Wheel. CD & Smoker. Immaculate. £49,500. 01244 300355.

XJS 3.6 89G, Green met, beige half leather. Service history, 53,000 miles. Immaculate. £8,100. Tel: 01270 588324.

JAGUAR & DAIMLER

XJR Auto 96P Carnival Red/Oatmeal Leather, heated elec seats, mirror pack, 22,000 miles. £36,500. Sytner Direct 0115 924 1144.

XJR-6 1989, JRG, FJSH, 69k. Excellent condition. £9,995. Tel: 01282 402578

XJS cabriolet, 3.6 auto, only 102 made, 1987, FJSH, immaculate, £14,000. 0171 538 2949 or 0410 776078.

XJS Conv, 4.0L, 95M, 33k, King Fisher Blue Met, Dove int, FJSH, CD, Exc. Cond. £27,500ono. Phone Nick 0171 432 0342(d), 01933 418482(e).

XK8 COUPE sept 97, Antracite, Black leather, sports pack, 18" whls, tracker and other extras. £49,950. 01989 780300 / 0973 425650.

XK8 Coupe Jan97, Sherwood green, Classic pack, Oatmeal trim, CATS 18" wheels, CD, 6300 mls. Garaged. Immac. Tel: 0973 118107. £50,500

XK8 coupe. Dec 96. 9,500 mls. Sapphire blue. Sports leather pack, 18" wheels, FSH. Cruise. Immac. £47,950. Tel: 0181 342 8773/0468 337704

XK8 Conv 97 BRG/Charcoal Leather, Sport Leather Pack, Stunning 8,000 miles, £55,500. Sytner Direct 0115 924 1144.

XKR-1979, black/cream leather, 14,000 miles, CAT suspension, 18" alloys, tracker. £51,000. 01562 711113/0836 512246

XK8 COUPE
LHD, 10,000 mls, Met Aquamarine, classic lthr pack in 2-tone teal, CATS suspension. 18 inch alloys, full electric memory pack, cold climate pack. Stack CD, cruise, air con etc. As new, beautiful condition. £42,000.
Eve: 01895 632237 Mob: 0860 384546.

JAGUAR 4.0 SOVEREIGN 1995 (M)
Sapphire Blue/Oatmeal leather. London Directors car. Only 21,500 miles. Full HR Owen service history.
£25,995.
Tel: 0171 4931414 (Mon to Fri)

JAGUAR & DAIMLER WANTED

01372 748080 Mole Valley are THE Jaguar Buyers. Collect Nationwide. 0831 406172 w/e.

LAMBORGHINI

COUNTACH 5000 S (1984), Acapulco Blue/Cream Leather, 26,000 miles. Beautifully maintained. £45,000. Graypaul 01509 232 233.

LAMBORGHINI Diablo, (93K), Rosso Red/Cream Leather, Rear Wing, Sports Exhaust, 6,000 miles, £75,000. Graypaul 01509 232 233.

LEFT HAND DRIVE

FIAT PUNTO 1100cc, 3-door Met Wine, 1994. Genuine 21,000 miles only, full dealer history. £4,500. Tel: 01584 877452.

VW GOLF Estate 1.4, 5 dr, Oct '97, K reg, met Blue, 6,500 mls, as new. £8,750. 0171 352 7802.

MIDLAND L.H.D. Suppliers of new & used L.H.D. vehicles, variety in stock. Left hand drive cars wanted. Tel: 01543 414 307

LEFT HAND DRIVE

MIDLAND LEFT HAND DRIVE ... WANTED TEL: 01543 414307

NEW ROVER Left Hand Drive Cars, "R"-Reg Delivery Miles Massive Savings!
* All + VAT
Island Garage Stafford 01785 240366 Eves Wkends 01785 247221 Days

LEXUS

1993 L Lexus coupe (Soarer), 4.0 V8, Full lthr, A/C, air suspension, 20,000 mls from new, CD, Dark Met Grn. Immac cond, Pvt sale. £25,000 0171 7220167.

COUPES direct from Japan, right hand drive V8, twin turbo and 3 litre models new and used. Intercar of London 0181 203 3899 or visit our new Manchester Showroom 0161 764 8881

LS400 94L, Oxford blue, blue hide, FLSH, 88k, Ex cond. £17,995. Tel: 01642 316458(e)/01642 210374(d)

LS 400 Nov 91, Oxford blue with blue leather interior, FSH and 2 years unlimited mileage Lexus warranty, 87k mls. £16,995ono. Tel: 0191 264 7117(D)/0860 771918(E&W). Genuine reason, no canvassers

LEXUS

COUPES direct from Japan, right hand drive V8, twin turbo and 3 litre models new and used. Intercar of London 0181 203 3899 or visit our new Manchester Showroom 0161 764 8881

LOTUS

ELAN Big Valve Sprint, DHC 1973, red & gold, main. regardless of cost, Lotus chassis, taxed, MOT, all correct & very rare. £13,960. 01727 823545.

ELISE 97P Norfolk Mustard/Blue Leather. Superb. 18,000 miles, £23,850. Sytner Direct 0115 924 1144.

ELISE 0 miles. Silver, leather seats, radio, driving lights. Best Offer. 01663 738239

ELISE March delivery, full spec. List price + £2K. 01582 766972(H) 01582 763838 (W)

ESPRIT V8 96P,
Silvershead leather. 8.5K miles. (97 spec). All factory modifications done. Perfect condition. Unbeatable value at £41,950.
Tel: 0171 453 7900 ext: 7903 or 01277 353685 (weekend).

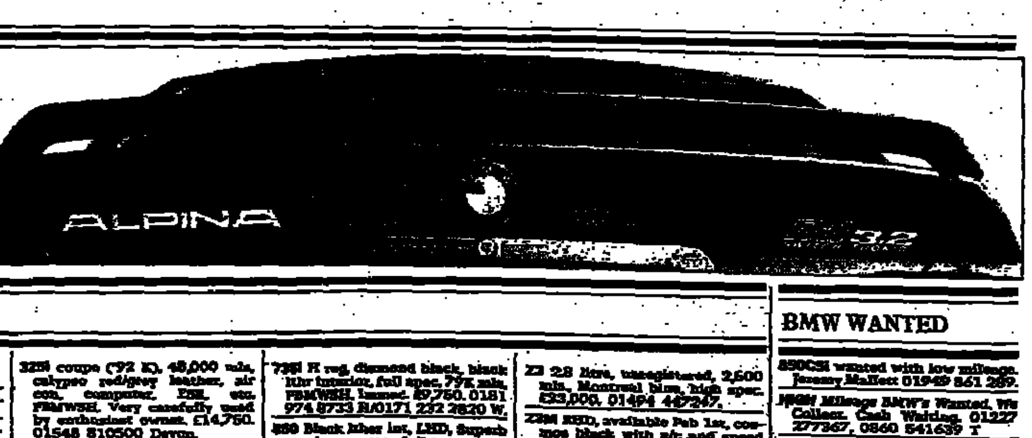
MAZDA

MAZDA Choice best choice, keenest prices. Mazda Choice freephone 0800 322 626.

MX5 1.6i 96N, red, alloys, alarm, 1 owner, 12,000 miles. £12,500. Tel: 01482 633735.

RX7 M-Reg Red 14k only Leather Trim 1 owner FSH £24,995. Tel: Bauer Millett 0161-831 7447

BMW AUTHORISED DEALERS

'PERFECTION: THAT'S THE ONLY WORD FOR ALPINA'
(FINANCIAL TIMES 31 MAY 1997)
THE BESPOKE BMW ALPINA B3. 3 SERIES SALOON, COUPE, CONVERTIBLE OR TOURING, 3.2 LITRE, 257 BHP, 0-60 MPH – 5.9 SEC, 160+MPH, 5 SPEED AUTO CONVERTING INSTANTLY TO SWITCHTRONIC F1 STYLE STEERING WHEEL GEAR CHANGE.
CALL 0115 924 1234 FOR DEMONSTRATIONS NATIONWIDE.
Sytner



WE'VE CUT OUT THE HASSLE
The no-mileage way to buy a low mileage car. Phone the Nation's No.1 dealership and access 200 cars of the same superlative standard as these examples.
Sytnerdirect 0115 9241144
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK SUNDAYS 10 TILL 4

ALPINA
97R B3 3.2 Touring Switchtronic Mezzone Spec + special leather interior. The ultimate in practical, performance, luxury driving. 4T £48,500
97R B10 Switchtronic Special Spec 8T £68,000
98R B10 Switchtronic TV Navigation, Outstanding 1T £POA
97P B3 3.2 Coupe Switchtronic Total Spec 6T £45,000
95M B3 3.0 Coupe Switchtronic Excellent Spec + Leather, Air 27T £35,000
95M B3 3.0 Coupe Switchtronic High Spec 29T £34,500
95M B3 3.0 Coupe Switchtronic Leather, Air 32T £33,850
Demonstrations available now
B12 5.7 – 7 Series 387BHP 6.2 sec to 60mph – 175+mph
B10 4.6 – 5 Series 340BHP 5.5 sec to 60mph – 175+mph Saloon or Touring
B3 3.2 – 3 Series 257BHP 5.9 sec to 60mph – 162+mph Coupé, Saloon, Conv or Touring
All models available with Switchtronic – 5 speed auto converting instantly to F1 style steering wheel gearchange
Sytner

Wheatley Hall
Tel: 01302 369191
Wheatley Hall Road, Doncaster, DN2 4SR

BLUE BELL (CREWE) LTD
740i Auto 97R, Cosmos/ Sand Beige lthr, 9,500 miles, multi spokes, board monitor(TV), GSM phone, PDC, htd seats. £46,500.
540i Auto, 97R, Glacier/ Black, 7k miles, Alpina alloys - kit, comfort seats, GSM phone, htd seats, CD. £43,000.

BMW

318iS Coupe 94M, Cosmos Black, ESR, FSH, Alarm, 46,000 miles. £13,750ono. 01707 873095.

325 Convertible Auto 94(L) Mauritius Blue/Anth, 2 owners, 31k FBMWSH, Power Hood, Alloys, H/Seats, D/Air Bag, Pioneer Sound, Cat 1 Alarm & Immob. Tracker, Warranty £21,998. Tel: 01483 476100, 01483 726882 (work), 0370 324093 mobile

BMW M3 Evo Cabriolet. 96P,
Cosmos/Grey leather. Hard top. Air Conditioning. Electric seats. Parking Distance Control. Headlamp wash-wipe. GTS. 10 Hifi speakers/10CD. Alarm/Tracker. 15,000 miles.
£41,000 ono. Tel: 0171 603 2650.

328i CONVERTIBLE
auto, 1995N. Montreal blue, grey leather/ blue piping, full colour, sports seats, alloys, CD, BMW hi-fi pac, computer, 34,000 miles. FBMWSH, 1 owner, stunning. £28,000 ono. First to see will buy. 0171 4818204

328i coupe ('92 K), 48,000 mls, calypso red/grey leather, air con, computer, ESR, etc. FBMWSH. Very carefully used by enthusiast owner. £14,750. 01548 810500 Devon.

328 touring, P reg, '96, auto, 21,000 mls, FSH, metallic, lthr, A/C, full spec, excellent cond. £24,000 ONO. 0181 529 5937

523i SE Auto/steptronic, 1997, Calypso red, Anthracite cloth, a/c, FSH, 20K. £27,400. Tel: 01628 475444, (Maidenhead).

525 TDS SE (Auto), Touring 97R (98 Model), Biarritz Blue/Grey Cloth, E.S.R, Climate, Spoked Alloys, PDC, CD Stack, 4000 miles, List Price (£34,000) £22,000. Ballamahire 01142 765656. A Sytner Company.

635CSi 1987E, LHD, Auto, AC, ESR, E/Seats, Computer, 75k mls, FSH, VGC, Family Owned. £5000ono. 01458 241647

728 IA, 97 R, Oxford/sand, Climate control, ESR, 7K, £33,850. Can deliver. 01287 610726.

328i CONVERTIBLE
auto, 1995N. Montreal blue, grey leather/ blue piping, full colour, sports seats, alloys, CD, BMW hi-fi pac, computer, 34,000 miles. FBMWSH, 1 owner, stunning. £28,000 ono. First to see will buy. 0171 4818204

735i H reg, diamond black, black lthr interior, full spec, 77K mls, FBMWSH. Immac. £9,750. 0181 974 8733 H/0171 232 2820 W.

850 Black lther int, LHD, Superb cond, as new, fully serviced. £17,500. 01273 814834.

M3 EVO CONVERTIBLE 96(N), Estoril blue, Black leather, climate, hard top, CD, FSH. £37,999 ono. 01344 872500 (day) 01344 62718 (eve).

M3 Roadster, RHD, Estoril blue, full leather, air con, del miles. £37,950. Tel: 0468 087030

Z3 2.8 Black metallic, beige leather plus extras. Unregistered, immediate delivery, pregnancy forces sale. Best offer secures. Tel: 0181 673 1371.

Z3 1.9 LHD, '97, 7,000 kms, black/black lthr, 6 stack CD. £20,000. 01227 371348.

EURO CONTINENTAL CARS
BMW 1998 U.K Specifications
Tremendous Savings On Z3 3 Series Coupe/ Cabriolet 5 Series Saloon/ Touring Supplied With Manufacturers Warranty. Why Pay More? Please Call For More Information
Tel: 01703 47 02 08 Fax: 01703 47 17 07
We Offer Tremendous Finance Deals

Z3 2.8 litre, unregistered, 2,600 mls, Montreal blue, high spec. £33,000. 01494 447247.

Z3M RHD, available Feb 1st, cosmos black with a/c and speed cruise control. Worth £48,000, first in the country. Offers. Tel: 0370 419292 after 7.30pm

Z3 M Roadster 3.2 litre, 321 BHP, LHD, unregistered, 28 kms only. Cosmos black, grey leather, 6 stack CD, 17" alloys, heated sports seats, air con, rollover bars, etc. Unique opportunity to save thousands on UK prices - £38,995 ono. Tel: 01789 773114 / 0468 527342.

Z3 Roadster 1.9, Arctic Silver & Red leather. New - delivery miles only. £24,750. Tel: 01246 432066/432617

Z3 silver R reg, 1.9 Man, Red Lthr Seats, Alloys. Offers Invited. Call Peter 0973 606560

Z3M
UK dealer supplied. Estorilblau leather. Be the very first. Available Now! Great spec.
£ offers
Tel: 01932 828263

BMW WANTED

850CSi wanted with low mileage. Jeremy Mallett 01949 861 289.

HIGH Mileage BMW's Wanted. We Collect. Cash Waiting. 01227 277367, 0860 541639 T

WANTED Wanted, 850 840 750 M3 M5 M6 etc, any mileage. 01628 660413 / 0831 123911

WE BUY QUALITY HIGH SPEC BMW WITH FULL SERVICE HISTORY ANYWHERE
PLEASE PHONE GARY WALLS
Milcars 0831 722227 (7DAYS)


MOTORS ALSO APPEARS ON PAGES 46 AND 47

هكذا من الاصل





Pedal power for a sound machine

Page 47



A Lada to stretch your mind

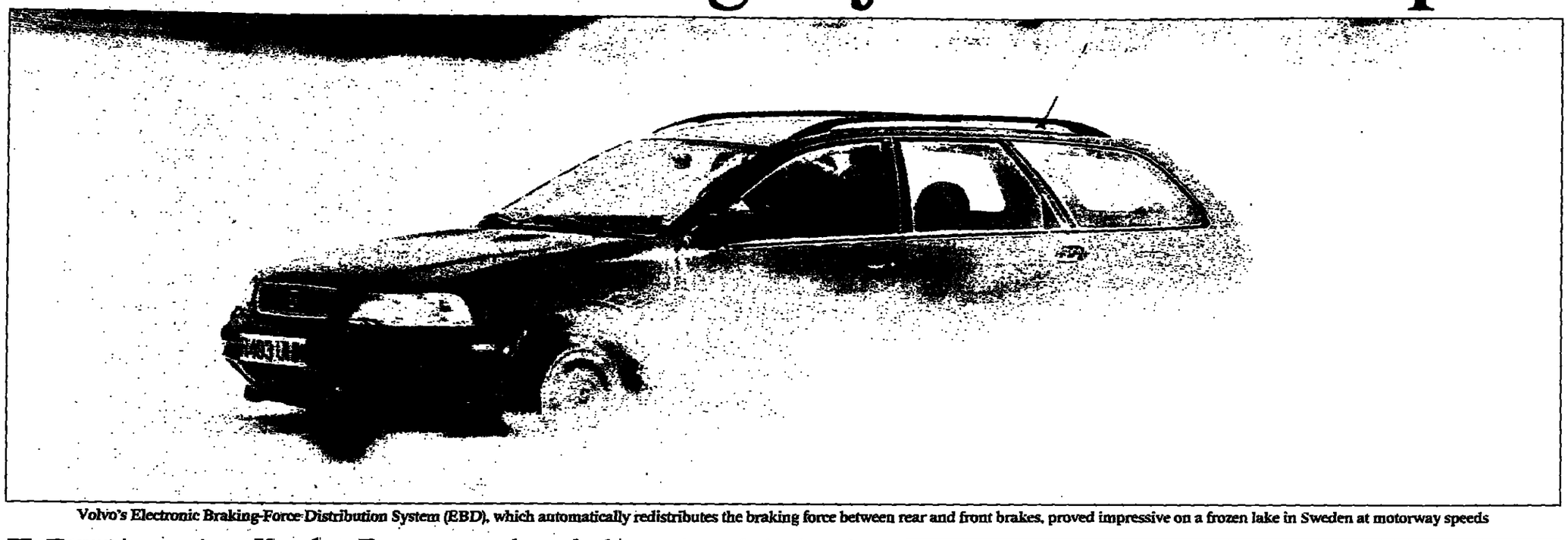
Page 47




Search for the best company driver

Next week

# How Volvo can get you out of a spin



Volvo's Electronic Braking-Force Distribution System (EBD), which automatically redistributes the braking force between rear and front brakes, proved impressive on a frozen lake in Sweden at motorway speeds

**Vaughan Freeman** wonders whether its two new bad-weather safety systems will make drivers complacent

Unexpected snow, rain and ice have already caught out dozens of drivers this year, and a skid in such conditions can prove fatal. Skidding occurs in a third of all road accidents in wet weather and two thirds of road accidents in snow and ice. Even when the road is dry, almost a fifth of road accidents involve a motorist going into an uncontrollable skid, and hundreds die each year.

One insurance company is so worried it is asking drivers to stay at home during extreme weather conditions. Premium Search wants motorists to take a good look out of the window before deciding to take the car, and either to stay at home if conditions are particularly adverse, or to use public transport.

Since motorists seem hopelessly addicted to their cars and equally incapable of slowing down when the weather demands it, Volvo has taken the lead to protect drivers from themselves and the weather. Two systems on Volvo's S40 Mondeo-size saloon and its V40 estate-car version have been designed with that lethal combination of speeding driver and slippery road surface in mind.

First, Volvo claims to have made its Anti-lock Braking System (ABS) more effective by adding an Electronic Braking-Force Distribution System (EBD). Volvo found that most ABS set-ups cut braking distances and reduce the chance of a skid, but can unsettle the car in an emergency because they apply more pressure to the front brakes than to the rear brakes.

To make the brakes more effective, EDB uses the electronic ABS sensors in the brake discs to detect how much braking force is being applied, and to which wheel. The EBD then automatically redistributes the braking force so that it is more evenly spread between rear and front.

Coupled with this is Dynamic Stability Assistance (DSA), designed to stop the car's driven front wheels from spinning on take-off, during hard acceleration on the move, or when hitting a patch of ice, snow or gravel.

Sensors in the four wheels inform the DSA central computer unit how fast each wheel is revolving. If one or both of the front wheels are turning faster than those at the back, the engine's electronic control module reduces fuel flow, cutting power to the driving wheels no matter how hard the driver's foot is pushing the accelerator pedal, and so wheel spin is stopped, all in less than 20 thousandths of a second.

On the frozen roads of Sweden, locked in temperatures of -10C, the improved anti-lock braking system was impressive. Helped by studded winter tyres, stamping on the brake pedal even at motorway speeds on a frozen lake brought the V40 to a non-skidding stop, allowing the driver if necessary to steer around any stray elk while braking.

Whether the DSA electronic wizardry to stop wheelspin is as effective is another matter. Certainly, the system will help would-be racers roar away from traffic lights because flooring the accelerator results in fast acceleration without leaving most of your tyre rubber on the road.

It is difficult to tell when DSA kicks in. When it did, heralded by a flickering dashboard warning light, there seemed little it could do to stop an over-enthusiastic driver stuffing the car, harmlessly, into a lakeside snow drift.

The fact is that the laws of physics cannot be beaten. No matter how clever the car, if you go too fast and try to stop too quickly, you will skid whether the road is dry, wet or icy.

The S40/V40 certainly gives motorists an extra margin of safety. However, there must be the danger that drivers, knowing this, will use up that margin by driving faster, effectively turning a safety feature into a performance feature.

Volvo has been busily re-inventing itself as a maker of stylish, sporty cars, but its project manager, Michael Blischke, says: "The number one rule is to drive safely. In winter you need to imagine that there is an egg between your foot and the accelerator.

"Our DSA system replaces that egg, enabling the driver to concentrate on things other than the accelerator, but nobody can ignore the laws of physics or nature. DSA is not intended as a system for faster driving but for safer driving, giving the driver greater control in most situations."

■ To find out more about controlling a skid, contact: Drive and Survive, Crowthorne, Berks (01344 751177); Brands Hatch Leisure Group (0990 125250); Silverstone Driving Centre, Northants (01327 857177); Castle Combe Skid Pan, Wilts (01249 782101); Skid Control (Goodwood) W. Sussex (01903 691810). The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (0121-248 2000 arranges tailor-made advanced defensive driver training courses.

## ALTERNATIVE SNOW BEASTS

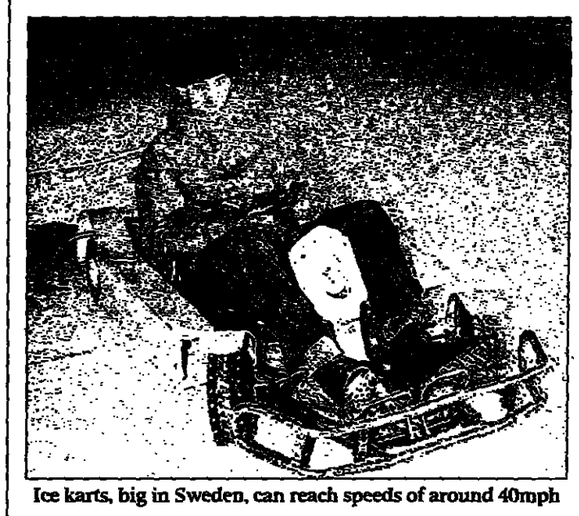
FOR superb grip on the ice, or fun without the grip, there are alternatives to the car in sub-zero temperatures, *Vaughan Freeman writes*. To go anywhere, try the tank-tracked Hagglunds, used by the Swedish emergency services. Built in Sweden, with a 2.6-litre Ford V6 136bhp petrol engine matched to a Mercedes-Benz automatic gearbox, the articulated machine runs on tracks.

Its grip is phenomenal, and it will climb the steepest, most slippery of ski runs without a pause. The cab seats six, and the rear section up to 12. Top speed is a nominal 45mph, but to travel that fast would be a nightmare. At 10mph or so, the noise inside is deafening. The interior is steel; the engine sits next to you, and the heater is as effective as an open-blast furnace.

The ride is, well, unforgiving, although Ulf Lindow, a Hagglunds driver with the Swedish fire service, says: "You can drive almost wherever you want. It also travels on water."

Provided you like travelling wherever you want sideways, an ice kart is the other choice. Ice karting is big in Sweden. All you need is a single-seat kart powered with a 200cc engine putting out about 6.5bhp, hammer-sharpened nails in the solid rubber tyres, and off you go.

The karts will top around 40mph but, flat out on a floodlit frozen lake in the dark, it seems more like 100mph. With room for one, just, ice karts are not ideal for shopping. They are, however, hugely entertaining, fully automatic and have only go and stop pedals. The trick, I was told, was to drift into the corners and slide around almost in full power before hitting the straight at top speed. Since my cornering largely involved describing balletic, if ineffective, 360-degree circles, it was advice I never completely took to heart.



Ice karts, big in Sweden, can reach speeds of around 40mph

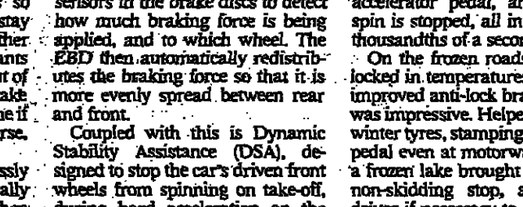
# The best of the old is as good as the new

**Alan Copps** finds the new 9-3 Saab looks elegant, feels safe and gives an even more comfortable ride

"If someone had told me a few years ago that I would be driving a diesel Saab, I might have laughed," said the legendary rally champion Erik Carlsson. "But I have just driven one, and it's a real Saab," he enthused about the company's new 9-3 model.

Well, up to a point, Mr Carlsson. The 2.2TiD engine, the first diesel marketed by Saab whose products took Carlsson to so many famous victories in the 1960s, is essentially a unit from General Motors, which owns 50 per cent of the Swedish company.

But, like anything else that Saab takes from its overwhelmingly larger partner, it has been heavily "breathed upon" in Sweden. That means that while, like many diesels, it grumbles loudly on start-up and feels rough in slow traffic, once it is up and running and the turbo kicks in, you can cruise a motorway as smoothly as many a petrol car, and with much greater economy.



The popular convertible 9-3 has a larger rear window

Carlsson, a giant of a man, now 69, whose rallying days may be over, still takes great delight in advising the company on its new products and putting them through their paces. No one could be better qualified to identify a "real Saab" even if they have changed out of all recognition from the tiny two-stroke 96 into which he squeezed himself to win three Monte Carlo rallies in succession.

A diesel Saab will give the company a chance to compete in new markets, and it will appeal to company drivers obliged to drive diesels for the sake of economy, but it is unlikely to account for more than 10 per cent of sales.

More interesting is what Saab has done to the rest of the range. From the outside, the 9-3 might easily be mistaken for a rebadged 900. The styling is sleeker, designed to show the family resemblance to its successful big brother, the 9-5, but the shape is the same. It comes as a three-door coupé, a five-door or a convertible. The hood of the convertible, which accounts for more than a quarter of all sales of this model in Britain, looks more elegant and has a larger rear window to enhance visibility, as well as new hydraulics to raise and lower it.

But it is inside, in the chassis and underneath the bonnet where most of the 1,100 detail changes have been made. Apart from the diesel, there are three engine choices: a 2-litre, 2.3-litre and the top-of-the-range 2-litre turbo which pumps out an impressive 185bhp.

Once you have driven this last version it is not difficult to understand why the company's V6 engine has been dropped from its smaller range. The turbo combines almost as much power with excellent economy and tremendous flexibility. According to Gary Axon, the company's British market planning manager, a lot of customers for the old 900 made inquiries about the V6 but settled for a turbo once they had tried it.

The chassis improvements will make the choice even easier. The steering ratio has been reduced to make it more precise, and suspension has been tweaked to give both greater comfort and stability. This means that on twisting roads and rough surfaces the handling remains utterly predictable even at speed and in the wet.

It is the sort of attribute you would expect of a Saab, as is the detailed attention paid to safety. The 9-3 features the company's unique head restraint, designed to prevent whiplash injuries. Side airbags, which inflate in two stages to protect both head and thorax, are standard on all cars.

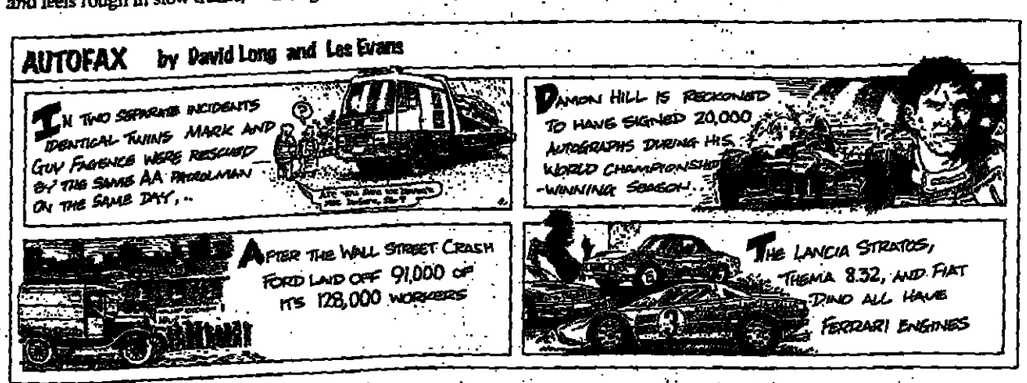
Comfort, too, is emphasised with more supportive seats, improved air conditioning and instrumentation. If the first impression is disappointment that the styling lacks any radical change, the conclusion after a short test drive is that Saab has been canny in preserving the best of the old model while evolving it into an even safer, more exciting and comfortable car.




More precise steering and better suspension on the 9-3 mean that handling is good on rough or winding roads

## SAAB 9-3

**Engine:** four-cylinder 2.0 and 2.3-litre, 2-litre turbocharged or 2.2-litre turbodiesel.
**Transmission:** five-speed manual; four-speed auto.
**Performance:** 2-litre turbo: 0-60mph in 8 seconds. Max 143mph. Diesel: 0-60 mph in 10.3 seconds. Max 124mph.
**Economy:** 2-litre turbo 29mpg. Diesel 42.4mpg.
**Price:** £16,495-£29,775 (on sale from March 16).




# Play golf? Then take a Saab

A SAAB may not be as quirky as it once was, but it is still an acquired taste — one that Britons especially have been acquiring fast in the past few years. Sales here have risen 75 per cent in the past three years to a total of 16,688 cars in 1997, when globally the company sold 12½ per cent more than in the previous year.

It has always been a marque to command loyalty, but Gary Axon, its market planning manager, says new sales are coming from those who might otherwise choose a BMW, Mercedes or Audi, but who want something distinctive.

Even BMW acknowledges that its phenomenal recent success has dented its own exclusivity.

According to Mr Axon, the Saab buyer is affluent and educated, keen on golf and walking, and covers 18,000 miles a year — nearly twice the average.

It also appears that British Saab buyers are more prepared to experiment than others. But one innovative feature is missing from the 9-3 range. The semi-automatic Sensonic gearchange, which once accounted for 30 per cent of Saab 900 sales here, has been dropped because of lack of global demand. The company admits it may have made a marketing error in comparing sensonic to a Formula One transmission. Similar semi-autos are now being offered on smaller cars as labour-saving devices for city drivers.

## AUDI AUTHORISED DEALERS


Why not upgrade to a used A8?

Audi Approved Used Car Programme.

For more information call 0345 69 97 77

Audi

To ensure customer service quality standards some calls may be recorded.



**Dovercourt Audi** — Audi — Approved Used Cars



**Battersea**

97P Audi A4 quattro TDi, 3,000 miles, Competition Alloys, Sports Seats, Quartz Grey
92J Audi 2.3 Auto Cabriolet, 39,000 miles, Red
95M Audi A4 1.8 SE, Emerald Green, 39,000 miles
95M Audi Cabriolet 2.0 E, Ming Blue, 41,000 miles, Half Leather, 1 Owner, FSH
95M Audi Coupe S2, Diamond Black, 22,000 miles, Black Leather, 1 Owner, FSH
97P Audi A3 1.8 Sport, Black, 11,000 miles, 1 Owner
94L Audi 100 2.0E Est., Tornado Red, 43,000 miles, Alloys, Sunroof
96P Audi A4 2.8 quattro, Red Met, 8,000 miles, Competition Alloys
94L Audi 80 2.0 Estate SE, Laser Red, 44,000 miles, Alloys, Roof Rails, FSH
94L Audi 100 2.0E Estate, Azurite Blue, Automatic, 35,000 miles, Extra Rear Seats, 1 Owner, FSH
97P Audi A6 1.8 SE Est., 7,000 miles, C/C, CD Player, Aluminium Silver
95M Audi 2.6 Auto Cabrio, 22,000 miles, Black, Part Leather, Amazon Green

0171 924 5544
98 York Road
Battersea, London

**St. Johns Wood**

97P Audi A8 quattro Sport, Emerald, 7,000 miles
97P Audi A8 quattro, Ruby, 13,000 miles
97R Audi A8 2.8 Sport, Ming, 6,000 miles
97P Audi Cabriolet 2.6, Ming, 2,000 miles
97P Audi Cabriolet 2.6, Cactus, 4,000 miles
97P Audi A6 2.4 SE, Tiptronic Racing, 6,000 miles
97R Audi A4 2.8 quattro, Aluminium, 8,000 miles
97P Audi A4 2.6 SE Avant, Cactus, 8,000 miles
97P Audi A4 1.8T, Aluminium, 14,000 miles
97P Audi A4 1.8 SE Avant, Ming, 8,000 miles
97P Audi A3 1.8 T Sport, Laser, 6,000 miles
97P Audi A3 1.8SE, Leather Interior, Competition Alloys, Aluminium Silver

0171 286 5000
30 St. Johns Wood Road
London



**Scotts Audi** — Audi

97R Audi S8 4.2 quattro 340bhp. Ming Blue, ecru leather s/seats, front & rear elec seat pack, climate, solar roof, side a/bags, bose, sat. nav, e/r/blind, h/l/w, f/armrests, gsm phone, r/locks, 18" avus a/w, 2,900mls £POA

95M Audi RS2 Avant. RS Blue, leather/alcantara recaro seats, aircon, abs, a/bag, traction, e/roof, 315 BHP, 17" carrera cup alloys, 10 stack cd, 39,180mls £41,995

96N Audi A8 4.2 quattro, Indigo Blue, blue leather, climate, front & rear seat pack, r/blind, traction, abs, p/s/roof, ewx4, r/locks, h/seats, cruise, 10 stack cd, competition alloy wheels 9,960mls £37,995

97R Audi 2.6E Auto Convertible. Cactus Green, green power hood, full leather, aircon, abs, cruise, walnut, r/locks, w/def, alloy wheels, 4,960mls £31,995

97R Audi 2.6E Auto Convertible. Aluminium Silver, full leather s/seats, blue p/hood, walnut, ew x4, r/locks, cdm, airbag, 17" 10 spoke a/w, 4,000 mls £31,995

96P Audi A4 1.8SE Auto Avant. Emerald Green, anthracite upholstery, climate, abs, airbag, asc, walnut, f/armrest, e/d/mirrors, lumbar adj, r/rails, ew, tints, immobiliser, alloy wheels, 10,480mls £21,995

97P Audi 1.8 20V Convertible. Velvet blue, ecru leather/cloth/seats, blue hood, abs, pas, airbag, walnut, ewx4, cd1, e/d/mirrors, tints, a/w, 7,860mls £21,995

97R Audi A4 1.9TDi 110SE Auto. Blue pearl, aqua cloth, climate control, pas, airbag, asc, cdm, r/locks & w/lifters, f/armrest, lumbar adj, obc, e/windows, immobiliser, alloy wheels, 5,500mls £21,995

97P Audi A3 1.8SE. Aluminium Silver, onyx leather, climate control, traction, a/bags, p/s/roof, f/lamps, remote locks, e/windows, abs, cdm, a/s/column, immobiliser, comp alloy wheels, 14,300 mls £21,495

97P Audi A3 1.8SE. Cactus green, black leather seats, climate control, traction, abs, f/armrest, airbags, cdm, r/locks, e/windows, a/s/column, alarm & immobiliser, 12 spoke alloy wheels, 8,960mls £20,995

97P Audi A3 1.8SE Auto. Aluminium silver, tungsten alcantara, climate, abs, ew, airbags, asc, f/armrest, r/locks, pas, e/d/mirrors, r/h/rests, a/w, 4,500mls £20,495

97P Audi A3 1.8 Sport. Aluminium Silver, black leather sports seats, traction, abs, airbags, cdm, a/s/column, p/s/roof, s/suspn, 6 spoke alloys, 10,750mls £19,995

97P Audi A3 1.8 Sport. Aluminium Silver, onyx/scarlet sport seats, abs, traction, asc, airbags, p/s/roof, r/locks, cdm, f/armrest, alloy wheels, 9,760mls £18,995

0171 730 2131 Sloane Square
0171 495 0000 & Berkeley Square



| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 94M | 80 1.9 Tdi Estate, Emerald Green, electric sunroof | £12,995 |
| 95N | 80 2.0E Estate, Red, electric sunroof | £13,995 |
| 95N | A4 1.6 SE, Aluminium Silver | £14,495 |
| 95M | A4 1.8 Saloon, Autumn red, e/s/r, sports seats, alloys | £14,995 |
| 95M | A4 1.9 TDI SE Saloon, Crystal Silver | £14,995 |
| 96N | A4 1.6 SE Saloon, Auto, Crystal Silver | £14,995 |
| 94L | 100 2.5 TDI SE Estate 6sp, Ruby Red, Walnut, CD changer | £15,500 |
| 96P | A3 1.6 Sport, Cornflower blue | £15,995 |
| 97P | A3 1.8 Sport, Brilliant Black | £17,995 |
| 96N | A6 2.6 Estate, Ruby red, alloys, roof rails, e/s/r | £18,995 |
| 94M | A6 2.8 quattro saloon, auto, black sports seats, walnut | £18,995 |
| 97P | A3 1.8 T Sport, black, esr | £18,995 |
| 96P | A4 1.8 T Sport Avant Blue | £19,495 |
| 96N | A6 2.5 TDI 115 SE Saloon Auto, Emerald green, e/s/c | £19,995 |
| 95M | Coupe 2.8 quattro, Blue Pearl, Ecru leather, air con, walnut | £19,995 |
| 97R | A4 1.9 TDI 110 SE Avant Auto, Brilliant black, leather, walnut | £22,995 |
| 95N | S6 Estate 6 sp, Emerald Green, alloys, s/roof, ecc, towpack | £29,500 |
| 96N | S2 Coupe, Laser red, black leather, walnut, Thatcham Cat.1 Alarm | £19,995 |
| 95M | A8 4.2 quattro, Emerald green, Ecru leather, comp alloys, memory seats, cruise | £29,995 |
| 97R | A8 3.7 Sport, Quartz grey, Ecru leather, cruise, remote locking | POA |
| 96R | A4 1.9 TDi quattro Avant, Aqua Metallic | POA |

Northfield Audi Tetbury — Audi



Franklin Audi ... the forecast is quattro

Tel 0113 204 1020
EVES: 0410 133143, 0370 557909
Audi


## AUDI

A4 2.8 Avant 97P Azurite Blue/Ecru Leather, Roof Rails, PAS, Walnut Trim, Sports St Wheel, Sports Suspension, Competition Alloys, Superb! 9,000 miles, £25,850. Sytner Direct 0115 924 1144.

A3 1.9 TDI Black, Registered 1998, ESR, extras. £17,200. 0973 967788.

COUPE QUATTRO 2.8e, '94 (L), Byzance, lthr interior, 60K mls, FSH, MOT. Beautiful car. £17,000. 01865 407391.

A8 QUATTRO Blue, Estate, 7 seats, leather, climate control, sunroof, CD, Auto, 12K mls, 97(P), £34,000. Tel: 01727 845558 or 01438 820305.

S2 H reg, Emerald green, air, leather, 85,000 miles, £12,500. Tel: 0836 287949

RS2 Avant 94M Polar Silver/Black Leather Stunning 47,000 Miles £38,850. Sytner Direct 0115 924 1144.

**A3**
1.8, Turbo Sport, Manual, 1998 (R), silver metallic, black leather, full electronic climate control. Electric sunroof, electric windows, 600 miles. £22,000.
Tel: 01491 628273.

## MERCEDES

190E Auto D-Reg Gold Air Con Elec Roof/Windows Lowner 42k Immaculate £7,995 Prestige Cars 01202 246100

190E 2.5 EVO II Cosworth 68 FMSH, high kms but as new. £16,900. 01943 880436

**SL500**
April 94. Met Blue/Black, black leather, additional wood trim, ADS, AMG alloy wheels, climate control, cd player x 12, telephone, additional security systems, one owner, full service history, 29,000 miles, immaculate, £55,950.
Tel: 0173 833746(home)
0181 3886066 (work)
(reg no 50 SL optional @ £4,500)

**Massive Discounts on new Mercedes**
"This specialist importer saved his client thousands.."
BBC News January 1998
The Garage on the Green
0171 384 1100
or 0831 102030

200TE Estate H reg, white, auto, EW, ESR, 2 owners, excellent, FSH, £9,000. 01438 871705.

280SL 94M Finished in Imperial Red with Mushroom Leather, CD, Rear Seats, FSH, £41,395. 01625 548802.T

300CE 1991 (H), repossessed, FMSH, 85k mls, no damage. Offers over £10,500. Tel: 01883 653132

300SL 1993 K reg, Red with Magnolia hide, 8 hole alloys, rear seats, cd stacker, tracker, immob, 35,000 miles, FMSH, immaculate condition, one lady owner. £36,995. 0121 4490046 or 0976 624008

300 SL 93L Signal Red/Cream leather AC R/ Seats 8 hole alloys 69K SH £37,500 Rookwood 01633 411110

300SL 87D Pearl Blue/Grey Cloth, Rear Spoiler, Fabulous! 26,000 miles, £22,500 Sytner Direct 0115 924 1144.

300SEC 92K Nautic/cream lthr Total Spec 67k FSH as new £25,500. 01203 362000 Work / 01203 690049 Sun/Home.T

380SLC auto, coupe, 80W, Gold, all elec, a/c, cruise, PAS, CD, S/R, alloys, immac, new engine by Mercedes at 80K, current 156K, same owner since 83, £8,950. Tel: 0181 684 2304(WY) 0181 660 0097(H)

328i SPORT COUPE AUTO, 1 lady owner, 15K mls only, A/C, elec roof, alm, Boston Grn/light Gry lthr, pass airbag, CD, autochanger, £26,950. Tel: 0378 003383 (Bath area).

420 SL 1989, 21,000 mls, Blue/Cream lthr, hard-soft top, original cond, £23,000. Tel: 01703 403230.

500SEC D-Reg Midnight Blue / grey lthr a/c Elec seats 1owner 47k FSH Concours £20,000 Prestige Cars 01202 245100

500SL 91H FAMG Body Kit, CD, Memory Seats, FSH and Much More, £39,500. 01625 548802.T

500SL 91, LHD, Metallic Black/Black leather, 56K mls, excellent condition, £25,750. Tel: 01534 481927/ 0410 306948

500SEC 91J, Smoke Cream Hide, A/C All extras, 78K FMSH, Mint. £19,500. 01959 522058

500SL 91J Solar/ Black leather AC 1 own 80K FMSH £34,500 Rookwood 01633 411110

500SE, 1986, pvt plate JOE 142, £11,000. Tel01922 406091.

C200 Elegance auto, M reg 95, Azurite blue/Mushroom interior, full Elegance extras plus radio and 8 hole alloys, FMSH, 1 owner, 37,000 miles, immaculate. £17,000. Tel: 01403 713080(H) 0181 394 2329(W)

C36 AMG CC, A/C, ESR, ETS etc, immac condition, 1996, low mileage, £36,250ono. No canvassers. Tel: 01929 471636 or 0831 420289

C180 Elegance, 1994 L, blue, manual, 50K mls, FSH, extras, VGC, £13,500 ONO. Tel: 0181 654 3164/ 01883 627678.

C200 Elegance, '96 N, auto, azurite/ mushroom, FMSH, superb. £15,995. Tel: 01438 751058.

C280 Elegance, June 96, White, 27,000 miles, FSH, v gd cond. £18,000. 01708 451954

C230 K Sport, R reg, 10,000 miles, black, ac, stereo, glass sunroof, £33,000. Tel: 01279 710601

CLK 230 Elegance 98 Silver Black lthr sun/r, alloys, stereo, 1,700 mls £37,500 0181 2073751 (W) 0385 504402 (M)

CLK 230 Eleg coupe, R reg, high spec, avail now. £42,500 0958 956770

CLK230 Kompressor, Met Silver, Grey Lthr Int, AC, E/W, Alloys, 10 spk CD, 1998, 200 mls, £38,500. 01763 255492/ 07970 796611/01932 781960

CLK 230 Kompressor Elegance, auto, 98 del mls, silver/grey lthr, fully appointed. £39,850. 01962 779204

CLK Personalised plate, Auto, Blue, Grey leather, CD, air/con, sunroof, 8,000 miles. £32,500. 0151 6537640.

CLK 230 Sports, Ruby red, Quartz leather, auto, 4k mls, R 97, ESR, air con, rain sensor, radio/cd. £39,950. Stunning car. 01268 526737 or 0976 243597

CLK230 sports, auto, '98, delivery mls, azurite, quartz lthr, mega spec. Offers. 0113 228 0690.

CL 500 P96, Gun Blk/Mushroom, elec glass roof, roller blind, wood/lthr steering wheel, cd auto changer, 23K mls, £59,950. Tel: 0378 003383 (Bath area).

E36 AMG auto Feb 97 only 2,900 miles azurite / grey many extras lady owner as new £55,000. 0121 447 7903

E200 April 96, M reg, E/W, ESR, FSH, only 21K, Bargain for £15,800. Tel: 01922 623744.

E220 Auto Conv 95M Brilliant Silver/Grey Leather, Black Hood, Heated F/Seats, 8 Hole Alloys, CD, 31,000 Miles, £34,850. Sytner Direct 0115 924 1144.

E320 Auto Conv Almandine Red/Mushroom Leather, Fabulous! 38,000 Miles, £36,000. Sytner Direct. 0115 924 1144.

E320 Cabriolet, Azurite/mushroom hide, full spec + stack cd, 30,000 miles, 1995 excellent condition, FSH. £43,000. Tel: 01819 793084

E 220 Cabriolet, 1 owner, Blue/ Black met, FSH, cream hide, 39,700 mls, £28,500. 01902 754335/ 01902 761720.

E220 coupe, full black lthr, auto, air con, twin air bags, walnut dash/CD, FMSH, centre armrest, alloys, '95 M reg. £21,995. 0961 315396/ 0181 891 6371.

### MERCEDES AUTHORISED DEALERS

96N S320, White, Grey Lthr, Auto, Elec Seats, Climate, High Spec, £28,750. Call: Derwent Wakefield on 01924 201390


If you're talking *finance*, and they're talking *funny money*, you're not talking Cruickshank.

★★ ENHANCED SPEC ★★★ LEATHER OR AIR ★★★★ LEATHER AND AIR ★★★★★ TOTAL SPEC

*talk* CRUICKSHANK *now!*

Tel: (0117) 966 9331 Eves: 0385 998357
Signature — 7 days a week. 24 hours a day. Nationwide delivery. A Sytner Company


## AUDI


**IVER VILLAGE CARS**
*Quality Audi Specialists*

| | |
|---|---|
| 95 (N) Cabriolet 2.6 Auto Byzance Pearl, lthr, power hood | £23,995 |
| 94 (M)S2 Estate Panther Black, air/con, lthr, alloys, esr | £22,995 |
| 94 (M)S6 Estate Panther Black, 6spd, climate, esr | £18,995 |
| 95 (N) A6 2.8 quattro Auto Quartz Grey, lthr, climate, alloys | £17,995 |
| 92 (K) S2 Coupe Indigo Blue, air/con, lthr | £17,995 |
| 96 (N) A6 2.0SE Estate Auto Ruby Red, acc, lthr | £16,995 |
| 95 (N) Coupe 2.6 Auto Ruby Red, air/con, esr | £16,995 |
| 95 (N) A4 T Sport Pearl Blue, esr, alloys, e/w | £16,995 |
| 95 (N) Coupe 2.6E Amazon, half lthr | £15,995 |
| 95 (M)A6 2.6 SE Auto Quartz Grey, climate | £15,995 |
| 95 (N) Coupe 2.8E Ruby Red, esr, half lthr, alloys | £14,995 |
| 95 (N) A4 1.8SE Auto Emerald, alloys | £14,995 |
| 95 (N) A4 TDI SE Auto Emerald, acc, alloys | £14,995 |
| 88 (F) UR quattro Turbo Coupe Lagos Blue, Black lthr, esr | £14,995 |
| 94 (L) Coupe 2.6E Auto Aqua, air/con, esr, alloys | £14,495 |
| 94 (M)A6 2.5 TDI Silver, alloys, computer, esr | £13,995 |
| 95 (M) A4 2.6 Emerald, alloys, esr | £12,995 |
| 93 (K) Coupe 2.6E Auto Emerald, alloys | £12,995 |
| 93 (L) 94 Model Coupe 2.6E Auto Laser Red, alloys, stereo | £12,995 |
| 95 (M)Coupe 2.0 16V Ruby Red, alloys, abs, e/w | £11,995 |
| 93 (K) 100 2.6E Auto Estate Silver, aircon, esr | £9,995 |
| 90 (G) 90 20V Cayenne Pearl, alloys, esr, e/w | £3,995 |

IVER, BUCKS.
TEL.01753 650909/FAX.01753 651019


## MERCEDES

## MERCEDES WANTED

1987 1996 Premium prices paid for all Mercedes. Glenn Williams 01372 749090.T

WANTED Wanted. All Mercedes, any miles / condition. 01628 660413 / 0831 123911 now T

JOHN WATSON will race to buy your car. Top prices paid for Mercedes-Benz. Call Today 0468 508496

(Mercedes column continued:)

E220 Coupe, auto, 1994 L, D blue, electric windows, sunroof, wood trim, 24k mls, £18,950ono. 0171 226 4653

E 230 Elegance, 1997, auto, air con, cd, blue metallic. £24,500. 0181 668 7643/0930 763373

E200 Est Auto 'M' Silver as/e 2xbags 82k fsh £14,750 01704 874704/0831 676575.LancsT

E280 95M, Blue Metallic, air con, alloy wheels, CD, 1 owner, FMSH, 62K miles, £18,500. Tel: 01753 887563

S600 Cpe 96 green black massive Spec 18k as new £64950 Fm Marlow 01628 660413 Bucks.T

S600 Limo, M-Reg, Full Spec, One Owner, FMSH, only £39,995. Call 0171 649 9109.T

S500 Coupe 95M Mushroom Lthr Full Spec, FMSH, only £43,995. Call 0171 649 9109.T

S280 94L, Auto, Blue/Black, Leather, 48k, FSH, Climate Control, Alloys, S/R, £Offers. No Canvassers. Poole: 01782 715716 9-5pm Mon-Fri.

S600 Limo, 1994, Full Spec, FMSH, only £31,995. Call 0171 649 9109.T

SLK Kompressor '97. Leather, LHD, 4,000km, air con. £25,000 no offers. Tel: 0181 8107589 or 0410 548864

SLK 230 Kompressor, 97, Silver/Black lthr, aircon, Cruise control, alloy wheels, 9,000 mls. £34,995 01844 216873.

SLK 230 97 (P), Limrite blue/Quartz leather, 1,500 mls. £35,250. Tel: 01722 335712

SLK 230 1998, Silver, Scarlet leather, air/con, CD, adjustable steering. £36,750. 01492 878042 / 01925 224863.

SL280 94, Midnight Blue, Mushroom Lthr, Climate, Rear Seat, 10CD, 8K mls only. 1 Lady Owner. £44,000 No Offers. 01883 715037/0831 250850

SL320, 96P, 10,000 Miles, Metallic paint, Elec/Seats, Memory, R/Seats, Climate Control, Alloys, only £58,995. Call 0171 649 9109.T

S 320L 96N 28K mls FSH Smoke Silver/Mushroom hide F + R E/Seats, F + R Climate + many other extras Immac £35,995 0181 9892501/0836 749367T

SL320 1997R, Azurite Blue, Brand New, Full Option, Special Price for Quick Sale £65,500. 0411 755414/0181 8920581

S320 S Class '96 N, green/blk, S600 spec, special edition, 44,000 mls. £39,995. 0181 551 2053 (H) or 0860 469556.

## MG

MGF 1.8i, British Racing Green, 14 mos old, 2,000 mls, hard top, walnut, & PAS. £16,950 ONO. Tel: 01202 878743.

MGF 1.8i JAN 96N, BRG, 17,500 mls, PAS, FMGSH, 1 lady owner. £16,500. Tel: 0116 2478537.

MGF Abingdon Limited Edition 1.8i, BRG, April delivery, '97 price - Offers. 0973 840646.

**MGF ABINGDON VVC** Limited edition, delivery March. Last chance. £26,000.
**MGF VVC** 97P Amaranth. *14,000 miles. Full service history, all usual extras, immaculate.* £18,000.
Tel: 01375 378290
Mobile: 07771 507702

## MITSUBISHI

SHOGUN 2.8 TDI GLS LWB Auto 97P Romano Red/Silver Grey Leather, Air Con, ESR, Chrome Bars, Side Steps, Lamp Guards, Walnut Dash + St. Wheel, Cd Stack, 13,000 Miles £29,500. Sytner Direct 0115 924 1144.

SHOGUN 2.5TDi GLS SWB, '97 R, immaculate, 5,900 mls, met green + extras, economy. £19,250. 01787 222418.

## MORGAN

+8, 3.9 Conn Gun/Stn Leather. Tons of extras. New bldg, del Feb. List Price for quick sale. Tel: 01577 862989 evenings.

PLUS 4 4 seater, 95M, Red/Stone, Walnut dash, l/rack, 3,400 mls. £24,500. 01494 482274.

PLUS 8 Dec' 85, fast road, 3.9 spec, never raced. FSH, genuine 26,000 mls. Present owner 10 yrs. Pete plate. Too many extras to list. A very special car. £22,950. 01727 823546.

## CONTRACT HIRE


**AMAZING OFFERS FOR BUSINESS USERS**
C/Hire - Lease - HP

| | C.Hire P/Mth |
|---|---|
| Immediate Delivery | |
| New BMW 328 Coupe's x3 | 344.99 |
| New BMW 523iSE | 449.70 |
| New BMW 318i Coupe | 262.07 |
| New BMW 528iSE Auto | 499.50 |
| New Ford Explorer – Auto | 365.99 |
| New Merc E240 V6 Elegance Auto | 385.99 |
| New Merc C240 V6 Elegance Auto | 353.99 |
| New Renault Megane Coupe | 173.99 |

AMT 0171 2224365 or 0113 2539797 Fax 0113 2597244


## CONTRACT HIRE


**BISHOPSGATE**
Independent Asset Finance & Leasing Specialists

**FIAT SPECIAL OFFERS ON CONTRACT HIRE**

| | |
|---|---|
| Fiat Cinquecento SX 3-door | 119.00 |
| Fiat Cinquecento sporting 3-door | 125.00 |
| Fiat Punto 60 SX 1.2 5-door | 135.00 |
| Fiat Punto 1.7 TD 70 SX 5-door | 165.00 |
| Fiat Brava 1.6 ELX 5-door | 189.00 |
| Fiat Bravo 2.0 HGT 3-door | 219.00 |
| Fiat Marea 1.8 ELX A/C 4-door | 185.00 |
| Fiat Marea Weekend 1.9 TD 100 SX 5-door | 195.00 |
| Fiat Ulysse 2.0s people carrier | 239.00 |
| Fiat Ulysse 1.9 TDS people carrier (7 seater) | 255.00 |
| Fiat Coupe 2.0 20V | 299.00 |
| Fiat Coupe 2.0 20V turbo | 339.00 |

The above quotations are based on 3 + 35, 10,000 miles per annum non-maintenance.
All makes and models supplied.

Please telephone for more information.

LONDON Tel: 0171 283 7799 | IPSWICH Tel: 01473 833733 | SHEFFIELD Tel: 01226 767474

Office hours: Monday-Friday 9.00am - 5.30pm



FREE Guide to Contract Hire
FREE Extras on certain Models
•Lease Purchase •Finance Lease •Contract Hire •PCP •HP •Cash
Porsche Boxster R Reg Big Spec Price on Request

| * 6 Month Deals * | |
|---|---|
| Mondeo | £349 |
| Golf VR6 | £399 |
| Lexus GS 300 | £725 |
| Sharan 7 Seater | £499 |

FLEET MANAGEMENT Inc
Accident Management
Uninsured Loss Recovery
RAC Inc. Relief Vehicle
All Servicing
All Tyres (Fair wear & tear)
All Consumables
From £19.95 p/m

PLATINUM

FREEPHONE SOUTH: 0800 7833250
FREEPHONE MIDLANDS: 0800 0733123
FREEPHONE NORTH: 0800 0733345
FAX: (01924) 211888 EMAIL: platinumvc@aol.com


## MOTORBIKES

R1200C BMW Cruiser in Ivory, ABS, Del miles, Registered 'R12 OOC'. The best! £12,500. 0191 520 2200/0378 585858 T.

## NISSAN

300 ZX twin turbo Targa, '94 L, 25,000 mls, blue, superb car. £21,950. 0181 977 4823.

SKYLINES direct from Japan, new and used. Quicker than a Ferrari and more exclusive. For further information and a test drive call Intercar of London 0181 203 3399

SKYLINES direct from Japan, new and used. Quicker than a Ferrari and more exclusive. For further information and a test drive call Intercar of London 0181 203 3399

## PERFORMANCE CARS

INTEGRALE EVO Dealer collection No.132, FLSH, low Kms, as new. £28,500. 01943 880434.

## PERFORMANCE CARS WANTED

VIPER wanted. Please telephone Jeremy Mallett 01949 861 289.

## PEUGEOT

PEUGEOT Marques, low cost, high value, P and R registration for immediate delivery new 406 V6 SE Coupe Carmos Grey Accent leather. £26,500.-97R 406 2.0 manual coupe A/C pulsar. £19,995. 0800 306 406.

## PORSCHE

911 C2S 1997 (Feb) Vesuvius /Chestnut, 18" Porsche wheels, S/Seats, AC, CD, 11,800 mls. £63,500. 01603 429348 (Office)/ 0585 371714(Mob)

911 Carrera 4 Targa, 1990 H, FPSH, 108,000 miles, green, excellent condition, just serviced. £22,500. 01680 212533

911 Carrera 2, '94 M, Moving abroad. Full spec, alloys, CD etc, immob. FPSH, 19K mls. £44,500. Tel: 0171 394 1154.

911 CAB Carrera Sport. Wht/blue lthr, 89 G, FPSH, CD. £23,750. 01703 814296/ 0973 326448.

911 C2 Coupe Tiptronic (G) 28k miles Cup alloys, FPSH, Linen met. £28,500. 0181 441 0637.

911 Carrera 4s, 96N, Polar Silver/ Navy Lthr, 9k mls, Mint Cond. £67,000. 0161 2267742(W)

928 S4 auto 1991, met blue, cream hide, 76k mls, AC, LSD, FPSH, £19,995. 0181 6938167

944 S2, '89(G) Finished in Guards Red, 77,000 miles FPSH excellent throughout £13,250. 0930 763373/01342 892971 T

993 Carrera 2 94(L) Met black / grey lthr a/cond 55k £41,995. 01494 564263/0860 882369 T

993 94M, 16.5K mls, Polar Silver, 1 own, FPSH, garaged. £47,500. 0181 964 3388/ 0468 811971

BOXSTER tiptronic full leather, ac, 17" wheels, metallic paint, low mileage, LHD. £38,995. Tel: 0181 876 9041

C2 Trip/ac/lthr/cd/alloys, 53k mls, K 92. £33,999. 0850 100002/01489 881464

TURBO 4 97R, 3,000 careful dry mls. Silver/blue lth, SF Seats plus extras, as new. £96,000 ono(p). No canvassers. Tel: 01789 268567(Stratford).


CLASSIC PORSCHE
911 CAR HIRE
HIRE IT BEFORE YOU BUY IT
1 WEEK TO 5 YEAR OPTIONS



THE LARGEST SELECTION OF CLASSIC 911's AVAILABLE FOR HIRE IN THE UK
0181 4218686
FERRARI PORSCHE


## PORSCHE WANTED

911 Tiptronic S wanted low mileage. Jeremy Mallett 01949 861 289.

911 Targa wanted, 96 or 97 model. Telephone: Jeremy Mallett 01949 861 289.

SSE or Speedster wanted with low mileage. Jeremy Mallett 01949 861289.

WANTED Wanted. All Porsche, any miles / condition. 01628 660413/ 0831 123911 now. T


Selling your Porsche?
contact
Roger Murphy
The Porsche buyer
0402 911 911
RIVERVALE
PORSCHE


## REGISTRATION NUMBERS

A1 SUS On retention. £2000 ono. 01224 861046 Anytime

## REGISTRATION NUMBERS

6 BRW On retention £4,800 Private 01705 483912

6 E £11,000 + VAT Firm Tel 0191 520 2200/ 0378 585858

2 FM £10,000 On Retention 0973 612811

1 JEN £40,000 ono. 'P JEN' £10,000 ono. 'JEN 1N' £5,000 ono. 'WPM 7' £8000 ono. Tel:01245 225404

8 JM 2 £12,500 SLK £12,500 Tel:01159 220076

SFA 51 On retention £2,500 01782 811467

996 KCG £850ono. On ret. cert Tel: 01483 422245.

### REGISTRATION NO'S. CNDA MEMBERS


NE NUMBERS — CNDA

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| APW 90B | £450 | 771 HWL | £650 |
| BAZ 2789 | £400 | 892 JGY | £550 |
| 903 BFJ | £450 | JIB 50 | £1400 |
| 169 DKN | £800 | 812 KTV | £550 |
| 521 DTA | £750 | 385 LPB | £650 |
| 591 ECJ | £500 | MHV 1X | £550 |
| FK 9143 | £500 | NSU 507 | £600 |
| FO 5715 | £750 | NTA 478 | £450 |
| FSK 789 | £500 | 586 PTG | £500 |
| 545 GDA | £750 | 881 RBM | £550 |
| 788 GTM | £850 | RO 2709 | £800 |
| HCS 189 | £550 | RSU 592 | £450 |

0191 5202200 0378 585858


## ROLLS-ROYCE & BENTLEY


**SELF DRIVE ROLLS-ROYCE AND BENTLEYS**
Drive in luxury all year round!
Arrive at that special occasion in style!
The most competitive rates! Weekend specials!
HANWELLS OF LONDON
Tel: 0171-436 2070 Fax: 0171-436 3110
Open Sunday 11 - 4


BENTLEY - Turbo R 96N Wildberry/Silverstone Leather, Incredible saving on new, 12,000 miles, £78,850. Sytner Direct 0115 924 1144.

BENTLEY Turbo R, 1988, Willow Gold, Magnolia hide, Birds eye Maple woodwork, FSH, £22,500 ono. Tel: 01482 872150.

BENTLEY EIGHTS 1987 choice of 2 50k FSH twin headlamps. 12 mths warr 01733 243737 T

BENTLEY 8 1986, Silver Grey/ Red piped hide, 2 tone interior. £13,995. Tel: 0161 8383040

CONTINENTAL R Black, sandstone piped black, 14,000 mls only, Immaculate. FSH, Tracker, picnic tables, July '94. £105,000. 0181 455 1890.

SPUR 88 1own 57k FRESH Black/ vinyl Rf parch hide £26995. 12mth Warry 01733 243737.T


**BENTLEY T2**
W reg, blue/leather interior, immaculate condition
£12,500
Tel 0181 943 4163.


## ROLLS-ROYCE & BENTLEY WANTED

WANTED Wanted, Rolls & Bentley Models, Any miles/cond. 01628 660413 or 0831 123911

## VOLKSWAGEN

CORRADO Storm '95 N, green, FSH, full spec, immaculate £19,500. 0802 256044.

EXCELLENT Savings, Audi, VW Polo, Sharan, Golf Est, BMW / Merc also avail. Tel / Fax: AIS 01582 460678

GOLF 5 door VR6, Jan '96, 16K mls, 1 lady owner, leather, a/c, immobiliser, FVWSH, Twilight violet. £16,960. 01392 882196.


EURO CONTINENTAL CARS

**VOLKSWAGEN SHARAN 1998**
Tremendous Savings
On New RHD Models

| | |
|---|---|
| Sharan 2.0 Basic + A/C, Twin air bags | £15,216 |
| Sharan 1.9 TD 110 BHP, Basic Air Above | £16,464 |
| Sharan 2.8 V6 Comfortline | £18,587 |
| Sharan 1.9 TD 110 BHP Comfortline | £17,271 |
| Sharan 1.9 TD 110 BHP Trendline | £17,876 |

Please Call For More Information
Tel: 01703 47 02 08
Fax: 01703 47 17 07
We Offer Tremendous Finance Deals
Part Exchange Also Welcome



**NEWBOLDS**
TELEPHONE
01623 626272
9.00AM - 6.00PM
AFTER HOURS TEL: 0589 954586

96P VW POLO 1.4 16V 3DR Tropical Green, 11,000 miles, Alloys, PAS, Electric Pack £11995
95N VW GOLF 2.0 GTi 3DR, Flash Red, 14,000 miles, PAS, Drivers Airbag, ABS £11995
96P VW GOLF GTi 16V 5DR Dragon Green, 38,000 miles, Air Con, Sunroof, ABS £12995
97P VW GOLF 1.8 CABRIOLET Blackberry Metallic, 15,000 miles, Alloys, PAS, £15995
95N VW GOLF VR6 3DR Dragon Green, 30,000 miles, ABS, Electric Pack, Alarm £16995
95M VW CORRADO VR6 STORM Blue Pearl, Black Leather, 22,000 miles, ABS £16995
97R VW PASSAT 1.9 90BHP TDIS Tornado Red, 8,000 miles, Roof £15995
97R VW PASSAT 1.6S Elegance Green, Climate Control £15995
97R VW PASSAT 110TDi SPORT in Grange Met, 9,000 miles, ABS, Twin Airbags £17995
97R VW PASSAT 1.8 SE 20V Satin Silver, 2,000 miles, Alloys, Rear Spoiler £17995
97R VW PASSAT 1.6 SPORT AUTO Windsor Blue, 5,000 miles £17995
97P VW SHARAN 2.0GL Sky Blue, Sunroof, Rails, 70,000 miles £15995
96P VW SHARAN 1.9 90BHP CARAT Sky Blue, 5,000 miles, Alloys, 6 Seats £16995
97R VW SHARAN 1.9 110BHP AUTO Green, 6,000 miles, Air Con, Loaned £19995

INCLUSIVE OF 12 MONTHS WARRANTY. OVER 50 MORE USED VEHICLES IN STOCK.

FREE NATIONWIDE DELIVERY


## VOLKSWAGEN


SCOTTS

97R Golf VR6 Highline 5dr Auto. Diamond black, black leather, abs, aircon, airbags, traction, e/s/roof, a/s/column, cd1, cdm, r/h/rests, obc, immobiliser, alloy wheels, 5,500mls £23,995

96P Golf VR6 Auto 5dr 3.2ltr Satin Silver, black leather s/seats, climate, e/s/roof, traction, abs, ew, asc, tints, lowered suspn., 220bhp, bbs rs 16" a/w, 21,500mls £22,995

97R Golf VR6 Auto 5dr. Mystic Blue, grey leather, climate, abs, traction, a/bags, e/s/r, r/h/rests, asc, cdm, obc, immobiliser, bbs alloys, 3,500mls £22,995

97P Golf VR6 Highline 5dr. Diamond Black, black leather, e/s/roof, aircon, abs, airbags, ew, traction, cd1, r/locks, alarm, a/w, twin lights, 15,600mls £21,650

97P Golf VR6 5dr. Diamond Black, beige leather sport seats, aircon, traction, abs, r/h/rests, ew, heated seats, cdm, cd, bbs alloy wheels, 4,850mls £20,995

97R Golf VR6 5dr Auto. Storm Grey, black cloth s/seats, airbags, e/s/roof, ewx4, r/h/rests, asc, obc, alarm, alloys, 1,100mls £20,995

97R Golf VR6 3dr. Brilliant Black, recaro s/seats, traction, abs, pas, e/s/roof, r/h/rests, immobiliser, asc, bbs a/w, 690mls £20,495

97R Golf VR6 5dr. Dragon Green, black cloth s/seats, e/s/roof, airbags, ewx4, obc, a/s/column, cdm, r/h/rests, immobiliser, bbs alloy wheels, 6,160mls £19,995

96P Golf VR6 5dr. Brilliant Black, s/seats, aircon, abs, traction, e/windows, a/bags, asc, r/h/rests, e/s/roof, immobiliser, bbs alloy wheels, 14,200mls £18,995

97P Golf GTI 8V 3dr. Anniversary. Diamond Black, sports seats, abs, airbags, e/s/roof, cdm, obc, pas, e/windows, cd1, 16" bbs alloys, 13,000mls £15,295

97P Golf GTI 8V 5dr. Twilight Violet, black sports seats, pas, abs, airbag, e/s/roof, c/locking, cdm, obc, r/h/rests, a/s/column, alloys, 8,000mls £14,995

95M Golf Avantgarde Convertible Auto. Satin Silver, blue s/seats, p/hood, airbags, ewx4, e/d/mirrors, obc, cd1, a/w, 11,250mls £14,995

MANY MORE AVAILABLE

0171 737 7133
0171 730 2131


## FOUR WHEEL DRIVE

JEEP Cherokee 4.0 ltd SE Blue/gold badging/tan hide. Late 94/private plates. 20k mls, 2 owners. Immac, FJSH. New tyres, new service. Fully loaded-+-, CD. Private London sale, £16,500. Tel: 0171 727 1543 or 0374 679149

SHOGUN 2.8 LWB GLX Auto 96P blue. Diamond Pack Air, Alm. Steps, Bullbar, Tbar. 31k mls Immac - £25,950. 01344 780782/0468 004854.

SHOGUN 3.0 V6 GLS auto, M reg, LWB, green, a/c, alarm, FSH, MOT/tax. 37k mls. 1 lady driver. £18,650. 0181 456 0225

### LAND ROVER AUTHORISED DEALERS


H.R.OWEN
TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE

*24 Months Warranty with all Used Range Rovers*

— RANGE ROVER —
— DISCOVERY —

*Business Users Only. Subject to Status. Written Credit Details on Request.

COLCHESTER
01206 216900


## JEEP

CHEROKEE 4.0 Ltd, auto, Blue, R reg, Below 3,000 miles, £21,250. Tel: 01428 724641

GRAND Cherokee Laredo, Turbo Diesel, Dk Green, 6 months old, 7000 mls, CD player, as new. £24,750. 0181 452 1006

GRAND CHEROKEE 4.0 Ltd, Auto, 96N. Dark Iris/saddle lthr, one own, 19k, CD and towing equip. £22,995. 01768 862123. 5pm-

GRAND Cherokee Laredo, TD, Forest Green, CD, June 97, 8,000 miles, as new. Save over 4K, £23,500. 0181 452 1006

WANTED Voyage auto, low mileage 01452 372100.

## LAND ROVER


**FREELANDER 2.0XEDI**
5 door, Rioja red, air conditioning, alloy wheels, hill control descent, delivery mileage only.
**£24,750.**
Tel: 01933 272750.


### LAND ROVER AUTHORISED DEALERS


**THE BEST 4x4xPHONE**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 97R | 4.6 HSE, Oxford Blue / Light Stone Lthr, 18" Mondial Alloys | 3T | £43,000 |
| 96P | 4.6 HSE, Epsom Green / Light Stone Leather | 26T | £36,950 |
| 96N | 4.6 HSE, Epsom Green / Granite Leather | 17T | £34,950 |
| 97R | 4.0 SE A, Oxford Blue / L.Stone Leather, CC Bumpers, Walnut Wood | 6T | £38,500 |
| 96P | 4.0 SE A, Biarritz Blue / Granite Lthr, ESR, E/Seats, HSE Alloys | 11T | £34,950 |
| 97R | 2.5 DSE A, Oxford Blue / L.Stone Leather, 18" Mondial Alloys | 9T | £38,950 |
| 97R | 2.5 DSE A, Niagara Grey / Light Stone Leather | 4T | £37,950 |
| 97P | 2.5 DSE A, Epsom Green / L.Stone Lthr, CD, ESR, HSE Alloys | 7T | £36,950 |
| 97P | 2.5 DSE A, Oxford Blue / Granite Leather, ESR | 35T | £33,950 |
| 96N | 2.5 DSE A, Epsom Green / Granite Leather, ESR, E/Seats | 22T | £32,500 |

Hallamshire
0114 276 5655


## LAND ROVER

DISCOVERY TDI ES, 1997 R, blue green, grey leather interior, total ES spec. 65,000 miles, mint condition. £24,500ovno. Tel: 0115 9831287 or 0976 221291

FREELANDER XEi station wagon, Alsai silver, 17" alloys, body kit, front and rear mudflaps, soft feel nudge bar, rubber mats, coolbox, sidesteps. First reg 30/1/98, del mileage, unwanted gift. £list. Tel: 01773 511180(H). 0468 895373


EURO CONTINENTAL CARS
**LANDROVER DISCOVERY 1998**
Save £££'s
Discovery TDi GS/ XS/ ES
Manual & Automatic
All Supplied With Manufacturers Warranty
GS Model Loaded With Extras
Call Now For More Information
Tel: 01703 47 02 08
Fax: 01703 47 17 07
We Offer Tremendous Finance Deals
Part Exchange Also Welcome


## RANGE ROVER

4.6HSE M reg 1994, Niagra Grey, Granite Grey hide, immaculate, 25,000 miles, 18" alloys, tow bar, £28,995. 0802 412003

4.6HSE, 1995, Immaculate condition, Biarritz Blue, manufacturers nudge bars, FSH, low miles. £31,500ono. Tel: 0468 051133

4.0 SE auto, epsom, 1995, FSH, as new. £24,000. Day 0151 336 3417/mobile 07970 715118

LSE '94 L, black, black lthr, every conceivable extra, FSH, chairman's car, 95,000 mls. 1 owner. Garaged London W2. Priced to sell. £12,000. 0171 723 8077 (office hrs).


**DSE AUTO 97,**
Charleston green. Grey lthr. air con, steps, alloys. 15k mls. Immaculate.
**£36,000.**
01908 511896 home.
01604 233923 office.
No canvassers.


## JEEP AUTHORISED


Jeep
THE UK'S LARGEST SELECTION OF PRE-OWNED JEEPS
Marlborough
a dealer for London
WEST LONDON 0181 558 0200
MIDDX. 01895 230 085


## JEEP AUTHORISED


Jeep — Obstacles overcome... over the phone.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 97R | Viper GTS, Met Blue, Agate Leather, A/C | 1T | £POA |
| 97P | Grand Cherokee 5.2i (LHD) AUTO, Black, Agate Leather, Climate | 80Kms | £23,000 |
| 96P | Grand Cherokee 4.0i LTD AUTO, Forest Green, Agate Leather, Climate | 11T | £25,850 |
| 95N | Grand Cherokee 4.0i LTD AUTO, Black, Agate Leather, Climate | 15T | £24,850 |
| 96N | Grand Cherokee 4.0i LTD AUTO, Dark Iris, Agate Leather, Climate | 25T | £24,000 |
| 97R | Chrysler Grand Voyager 3.3i LE AUTO, Light Iris, Grey Leather, A/C | 6T | £25,250 |
| 97R | Chrysler Grand Voyager 3.3i LE AUTO, White, Grey Leather, PDC, A/C | 6T | £24,500 |
| 97P | Chrysler Grand Voyager 3.3i LE AUTO, Deep Amethyst, Grey Leather, A/C | 10T | £24,500 |
| 97P | Chrysler Grand Voyager 3.3i LE AUTO, Light Iris, Grey Cloth, A/C | 15T | £23,850 |
| 97P | Chrysler Voyager 3.3i LE AUTO, Black, Grey Leather, A/C | 16T | £23,000 |
| 97P | Chrysler Voyager 2.5i SE MAN, Deep Amethyst, Grey Cloth, A/C | 5T | £17,250 |
| 97P | Wrangler 4.0i Sahara MAN, Moss Green, Trail Cloth | 7T | £15,850 |

SANDRIDGE NATIONWIDE
Open 7 days Sun 11-4pm 01926 451 452 Evening 0976 982142
A SYTNER COMPANY


## OFFICIAL PORSCHE CENTRES


Merlin
01222 614622
AFTER HOURS
07970 652209



Stratstone
01625 522222
0468 383821



Merlin
NOTTINGHAM
Telephone: 0115 942 0944
Open Sundays 10am -3pm



**RIVERVALE**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 98S | 928 S4 Auto Silver | 53T | £23,000 |
| 91H | 944 Cabriolet White | 35T | £21,000 |
| 94L | 968 Club Sport White, ESR | 29T | £25,000 |
| 94L | 968 Coupe Tiptronic Black, A/C | 27T | £30,000 |
| 95M | 968 Sport Black, ESR | 41T | £25,000 |
| 89F | 911 Sport Coupe Guards | 63T | £24,000 |
| 89F | 911 Turbo Guards | 24T | £39,000 |
| 89F | 911 SSE Cabriolet White | 13T | £36,000 |
| 91H | 911 C4 Cabriolet Oak Green | 41T | £36,000 |
| 95M | 911 Cabriolet White, A/C, 17" Alloys | 16T | £55,000 |
| 95M | 911 C4 Cabriolet Iris, A/C, 17" Alloys | 20T | £58,000 |
| 97P | 911 C4 Cabriolet Silver, A/C, 18" Alloys | 9T | £P.O.A. |
| 90G | 911 C4 Targa Slate | 26T | £32,000 |
| 92K | 911 C2 Coupe Black, Light Grey Leather, ESR | 37T | £30,000 |
| 93L | 3.6 Turbo Amazon | 13T | £58,000 |
| 94L | 911 Coupe Tiptronic Midnight, A/C, 17" Alloys | 13T | £51,000 |
| 94M | 911 C2 Coupe Black, A/C, 17" Alloys, 10 Spk | 12T | £51,000 |
| 95M | C4 Coupe Aventura, A/C, 17" Alloys | 22T | £51,000 |
| 95M | 911 C4 Coupe Aventura, Full Lthr, A/C, 17" Alloys | 12T | £53,000 |
| 95M | 911 Coupe Tiptronic "S" Aventura, A/C, 17" Alloys | 10T | £63,000 |
| 96N | 911 C2 Coupe Silver, A/C | 6T | £55,000 |
| 96N | 911 Coupe Tip "S" Turquoise, A/C, 17" Alloys | 17T | £54,000 |
| 96N | 911 C4 "S" Iris, A/C, 18" Alloys | 25T | £63,000 |
| 96P | 911 C4 Coupe Black, 18" Alloys, Sport Seats | 17T | £56,000 |
| 96P | 911 C2 Coupe Arena, A/C, 17" Alloys | 19T | £55,000 |
| 97P | 911 Targa Arena | 6T | £61,000 |
| 97P | C2 "S" Black, A/C, 18" Alloys | 11T | £P.O.A. |

PORSCHE
Tel: 01273 708911, Sundays 0850 911911



| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 97 | 911 Carrera 4 Cpe Ocean, A/C | 1T |
| 97P | 911 Carrera Cab Met Black, A/C | 11T |
| 96P | 911 Carrera 4S Cpe Arena, A/C | 9T |
| 96P | 911 Carrera Cpe Pastel, A/C | 7T |
| 96N | 911 Targa Iris, A/C | 18T |
| 96N | 911 Carrera 4 Cab Midnight | 25T |
| 94L | 911 Carrera Cpe Polar, A/C | 37T |
| 93K | 911 Carrera 2 Cpe White | 43T |
| 93 | 911 C4 Cabriolet Silver | 57T |
| 92K | 911 Carrera 4 Cpe Amazon, A/C | 61T |
| 90G | 911 Carrera 2 Targa Guards | 56T |
| 90G | 911 Carrera 2 Cpe Guards | 66T |
| 92J | 928GT Manual Cobalt, A/C | 43T |
| 94L | 968 Sport Riviera Blue | 37T |
| 94L | 968 Sport Guards Red | 44T |
| 89G | 944 S2 Cpe Alpine White | 62T |

01793 615888
Sunday 0860 911959
PORSCHE
Dick Lovett

هكذا من الاصل



Why is it that those drivers who have consumed probably more than the legal amount of liquor suddenly find that their back light has gone?

# The mystery of the flickering light

DRIVEN TO DISTRACTION



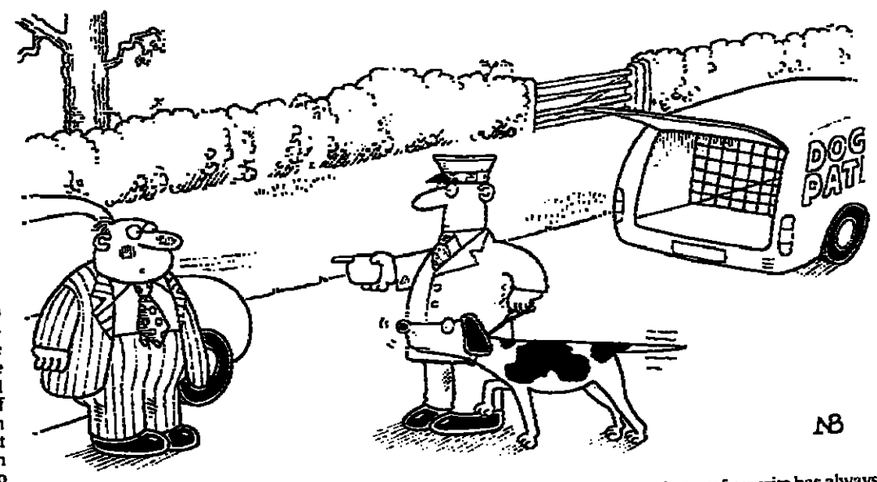
Peter Barnard

Lots of people who, like me, took a random breath test several years ago will have been surprised to discover this week that ministers are considering bringing in such tests after three months of consultation and a further delay while the legislation is brought up to date. Assuming the plan goes through, random breath tests of the kind we thought we were already used to will be called "discretionary targetting", but they amount to the same thing.

My own random test was carried out just after I had driven away from a restaurant in Camden Town, north London. This was back in about 1990. No police car followed me, I was simply flagged down by a police officer who told me that I been driving erratically. Tripe. He asked if I had been drinking, and I said that I had shared a bottle of wine with two other people. I did the test, passed and drove away. About a week later my hands stopped shaking.

So random tests have the desired effect. I describe that one as random because it was. I did not complain about it at the time, nor am I complaining about it now. I am all for random testing. The present system, whereby I have to be committing an offence or suspected of committing one to be tested is plain daft. The police have stop-and-search powers for all kinds of crime except that of driving while drunk. The situation is farcical, and I am surprised that a relatively new government with a huge majority is being so cautious about making a change.

Of course, there has been the usual outcry, led by the Brewers and Licensed Retailers' Association. It predicts, you guessed it, a "disaster for country pubs". Complete hogwash. Good country pubs that serve all their customers, including families, in the proper way will always prosper. The ones that simply fill people up with drink will go to the wall, and the sooner the better.




Interestingly, it is the latter kind, the ones that will let your pet crocodile sit in front of the log fire but make your children stand outside in the rain, that tends to attract the hard-core drinkers, which is to say middle-aged men. So the police, camped outside such pubs at closing time, should not be short of discretionary targets.

Mind you, the arrival of random testing will have at least one unfortunate side effect: we shall no longer be able to fall about, so to speak, over the excuses the police offer for stopping our cars and giving us a breath test. There have been some very good ones over the years, but my favourite has always been the flickering rear light.

"Your offside rear light isn't working, sir." This is an introductory offer from the police. The driver gets out of his car, assuming he feels confident about being able to stand up, and moves to the rear of his vehicle. "Look," he cries plaintively, "it's working fine." At this stage the officer makes his final offer: "It was flickering, sir. It has an intermittent fault."

Scientific research commissioned by *The Times* at vast expense has shown that in normal usage, rear lights either work or they do not. However, in the event that a driver should be behind the wheel having consumed more than the legal quantity of alcohol, somehow the vapour from the alcohol gets into the car's electrical system, works its way to the rear, infiltrates the area behind the light bulb and, there you have it — a flickering rear light. No other form of liquid can do this. No driver has ever been told he had a flickering rear light after consuming a bottle of still mineral water.

The other wonderful reason for stopping the suspect drunk is "driving too slowly". I am not clear whether this is myth or reality but so many people claim to have been told they were driving too slowly that I am inclined to believe it must have happened to someone at some time. Perhaps it was you and perhaps you will write: don't worry, names can be withheld. And send in other good excuses for a breath test or otherwise. The best will get a suitable prize. But not a bottle of champagne.

# Pedal-powered audio system

There is more to cycling than going from A to B, says **Morag Preston**

DAVID HOWELLS



Dan Smythies: "The harder people pedal, the louder the music"

SIX cyclists and plenty of water is all Dan Smythies needs to produce his travelling concert. Known as the "Rinky Dink" or "Mobile", the bicycle-powered sound system, 17ft long and 9ft high, has flower-shaped speakers and can be ridden for up to 30 miles in a day.

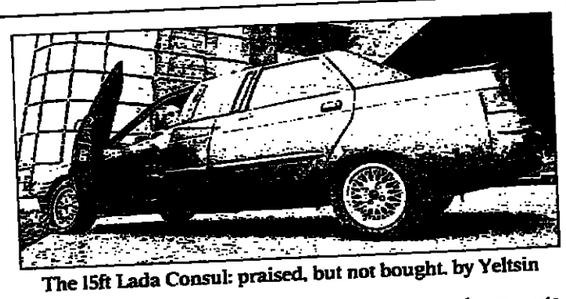
Mr Smythies, 30, a former builder based in Gloucester, who built the non-polluting energy source, says: "The more people on board, the harder they pedal, the louder the music. The worst thing that can happen is that a chain comes off or a pedal wears out."

Volunteers at the 1995 Severn Revels Festival in the Forest of Dean played their part in the production of the world's first digital bicycle-powered recording. Mr Smythies used Bill Wright's stationary "four-person" generator, originally designed to power radios used by doctors in Tanzania. So far, 1,000 copies of the CD, featuring the guitarist Martin Cradick and the African world group Baka Beyond, have been sold.

Mr Wright, 35, is busy putting the finishing touches to his "one-person" for use in Tanzania. The designer/engineer, based in London, was commissioned by the Flying Doctor Development Service to produce inexpensive radio equipment for isolated communities. Pedalling away in the early morning, to avoid the heat of the midday sun, villagers will be able to make contact with people halfway around the world via the shortwave radio transmitter system. So, what will be the first message to cross the airwaves? "Hello, Glastonbury."

LADA

# Unfit for a President



The 15ft Lada Consul: praised, but not bought, by Yeltsin

NOW for the Lada, which has come a long way from its humble origins, *Eve-Ann Prentice writes*. The stretch version is being built in Russia and is intended as a rival to the BMWs and Mercedes beloved by the *nouveaux riches* in the former Soviet Union.

The 15ft-long Lada Consul, a relative snip at the equivalent of US$20,000, drew lavish praise from Boris Yeltsin when he visited Lada's plant at Togliatti nearly 600 miles southwest of Moscow. He admired the leather seats, electric windows, sunroof, air conditioning, CD player and colour television, and he exulted in the illuminated cocktail bar.

But, to Lada's dismay, the President went and bought an armour-plated BMW 750 instead, for the equivalent of US$195,000.

Russian newspapers have also been less than euphoric about the stretch Lada, pointing out that, while it has a mahogany steering wheel and gear lever, there is no satellite phone, airbags or ABS brakes. The car is seen as too expensive for the average Russian but not luxurious enough to satisfy the so-called "new Russians" who have amassed huge sums since the collapse of communism. Russian bureaucrats, meanwhile, seem reluctant to part with their Audis and Saabs.

Potential buyers in Britain are also going to be disappointed — the Lada Consul is not for sale here. A spokesman for the company was not even aware that Lada now makes the stretch version. "Are you sure you are not thinking of the Zil?" he asked, referring to the old limo used to ferry around generations of Russian leaders before the collapse of communism.

ROVER
820SLi 1994 M reg, 53,000 miles, metallic grey, FSH, good condition owned from new, £6,285ono. Tel: 0181 670 3663

SAAB AUTHORISED DEALERS
A selection of quality used Saab models including Convertibles at competitive prices. Peugeot Kentish Saab for full stock list, on 0800 512900 http://www.kentishsaab.co.uk

SAAB
900SE convertible V6 2.5, 1995M, dark green, manual, leather, 39K, immaculate condition £19,950. tel: 0117 986 0255

SAAB
900 SE 2.5 V6, Nov 94, M reg, black with black leather int, moto, sc, stereo, ABS, TCS, 40k mls, beautiful condition, 1 owner, FSH, £14,995. Tel: 0171 702 1244(evening or weekend)

900 Turbo SE Sensonic
96P, Black, 10,000 miles, FSH, Immaculate
£16,999
0161-773 2299
open 7 days.(T)

SAAB
CHINAMA 4.0 HC, 96 P, 6k mls, Silver/blue half hide, 13 mths TVR warranty, Immac, £27,950. TVR wanted, Taunus, £27,950. Tel: 01883 742200 no time wasters please

CHIMERA 94M Midnight Blue/Magnolia Leather, Stunning! 34,000 miles, £25,500. Cygnet Direct 0115 924 1344.

GRIFFITH 500 (97?), 4,000 miles, Metallic grey/Magnolia Hide, £24,500. Campbell 01509 222 255.

TVR
TVR WANTED all low mileage TVR's. Please contact Charles Ryecon, Mole Valley, 0181 394 1114.

TOYOTA
CHEAPEST Toyotas possible. The Toyota Shop really do try harder 01530 722836 anytime

COLORADO LANDCRUISER, 1997, Diesel, LWB, Met Red, 1 owner from new, 10,000 mls, many extras, £22,000 ono. Tel: 01325 288960.

MR2 SPORTS Original classic shape, 1987F, red, 1 lady owner only, 13,000 miles from new, Immac £7,500. 0116 2704481.

PREVIA CF, Auto 94P, Met blue, 17k mls, £17,995. Tel: 01252 625575.

VOLVO
T5 GLT Estate, Auto, 96P, Red, Half Lthr, AC, CD stack, Hot pack, FSH, 20k mls. Company chairmans own car, £22,000 ono. Tel:01635 248889(9-5, 7days)

850 GLT glass bsr pack, 2.5 20V, Sept 95, 19,500 miles, half leather, sc, TSR alloys, rear spoiler, full spec, immaculate, £17,600. Tel: 0181 854 5551

850 T5 estate, auto, 1995 M, full spec incl climate control, cruise, CD stack, 51,000 mls, FSH, £19,000 ONO. 01376 550562 (D)/331723 (E).

850 T5 Estate, 1994, estate green, automatic, sunroof, ABS, half leather, low miles, roof rail, one owner, excellent condition, FSH, £15,495. Tel: 0115 9400984

VOLVO AUTHORISED
VOLVO APPROVED USED CARS
TAMPLINS OF TWICKENHAM
0181 891 0081
National Delivery
Open 7 Days - Sun 10am - 4pm

VOLVO
VOLVO APPROVED USED CARS
TAMPLINS OF CROYDON
Nationwide Delivery
Tel: 0181 680 2020
Open 7 Days - Sun 10am - 4pm
WWW.TAMPLINS.CO.UK

VOLVO
VOLVO APPROVED USED CARS
TEMPLARS
Freephone:0800 919 168

VOLVO
VOLVO APPROVED USED CARS
KNIGHTS
01322 337 000 Nationwide Delivery

C70 coupe, garnet red, auto, full spec, light/dark grey leather, alloy stereo, cruise, delivery mileage, £29,500ono. 01546 652095 or 0831 189383

REGISTRATION NO'S. CNDA MEMBERS

REGISTRATION NUMBERS
A5 TUD
£10,000.
Tel: 0831 402388.

22 EAN
J5 COT
A4 ASH
£4,950 each
Tel: 016973 42139 or 0402 403 402
All 3 on retention

REGISTRATION NUMBERS
MARKET RESEARCH 33 DAISY HILL DRIVE, DIGGLE FRG 0LE
PHONE 01257 482305 PHONE
FAX 01257 474745 FAX
MOST ARE PLUS V.A.T. ALL ARE PLUS TRANSFER

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ABA 817 | 1,650 | 5347 DW | 2,000 | JIB 13 | 1,600 | 11 PJF | 3,800 |
| 78 ALE | 2,500 | B5 FCA | 1,000 | JIL 34 | 2,500 | 7 PW | 10,000 |
| 827 BAR | 1,800 | J4 FCA | 1,000 | JJ 7329 | 2,200 | RAP 40X | 600 |
| 663 BAR | 1,800 | R5 FCA | 1,000 | KDL 353 | 900 | RBR 938 | 1,145 |
| 20 BEA | 1,800 | FEC 871 | 1,000 | 93 KP | POA | RC 5 | 15,000 |
| 8711 BH | 1,400 | GIL 59 | 2,500 | LAZ 40 | 1,500 | RIB 750 | 800 |
| 62 BOB | 4,200 | 600 GJH | 3,200 | LJK 288 | 1,000 | RON 856 | 3,000 |
| 98 BTW | 1,400 | GSB 55Y | 600 | LN 9705 | 1,800 | SAD 196 | 1,800 |
| 50 CLM | 2,800 | H4 RLD | 1,000 | LNJ 199 | 800 | SFR 523 | 1,200 |
| CDE 947V | 325 | HAZ 6 | 2,200 | 12 MA | 6,000 | 6686 SM | 5,000 |
| 842 CTU | 600 | HD 9486 | 1,400 | M13 NSA | 600 | 749 SMD | 1,800 |
| DA 9778 | 1,600 | HIL 1969 | 1,000 | MP 8740 | 2,500 | TV 321 | 2,500 |
| 944 DBC | 1,200 | HIL 1959 | 1,000 | MUN 802 | 1,200 | GI USA | 2,500 |
| DBR 349 | 1,800 | HO 9051 | 800 | 9181 MX | 800 | VER 558 | 1,200 |
| 529 DMD | 2,000 | J4 RAT | 500 | NN 4460 | 1,300 | PIB 30 | 1,200 |
| DS 86 | 11,000 | JEC 699X | 400 | | | | |

REGISTRATION NUMBERS
With DVLA Select Registrations from an all inclusive £250, the outlook's both remarkably cheap and unseasonably cheerful.

We may not be able to predict the weather, but we can guarantee your vehicle will be brightened up by a Select Registration. From an all inclusive £250, the price certainly won't put a dampener on your finances; nor need buying one cost you your sunny disposition. Firstly, choose a prefix letter. Most J, K, L, M, N, P and some A and H prefix Select Registrations begin at only £250, while R and B prefixes start from just £399. Some registrations are individually priced. All prices are inclusive of VAT and £80 assignment fee. Secondly, add a number. With A, B and H prefixes you've a choice of numbers 1 to 20, while J, K, L, M, N, P and R prefixes also include repeat numbers from 22-999, numbers ending in 0 from 30-90, and those ending in 00 from 100-900. Next, choose any combination of three letters except I, Q and Z. It couldn't be simpler. Finally, when you've decided on your registration call the DVLA Registration Hotline with Visa, MasterCard or cheque book handy. Select Registrations are exclusive to the DVLA through their Registration Hotline. Lines are open from 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday.

DVLA Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency
01792 77 33 66
Select Registration Hotline
Quote reference: T0702
SELECT REGISTRATIONS

FOR THE PEERLESS MARK OF DISTINCTION THE DVLA ALSO OFFER REGISTRATIONS FROM THEIR CLASSIC COLLECTION, ONLY AVAILABLE AT AUCTION.

DETAILS ABOUT FORTHCOMING DVLA CLASSIC COLLECTION AUCTIONS CAN BE OBTAINED FROM DVLA SALES OF MARKS (MARKETING), SWANSEA, SA6 7JL.

It is in your interest in mis - space or misrepresent your registration in any way, do not buy. DVLA reserves the right to withhold certain registrations, some of which may be offered for sale at auction. Numbers are sold subject to the Sale of Registration Marks Regulations and are subject to availability. Prices are subject to change without prior notice. Figure combinations outside the scope of this DVLA sales scheme are not available. REGISTRATIONS CANNOT BE USED TO MAKE A VEHICLE LOOK YOUNGER THAN IT IS. The vehicle registration number system is under review.

www.dvla-som.co.uk

REGISTRATION NUMBERS
DK REGISTRATIONS
Sudbury (01787) 312222
MANY THOUSANDS OF NUMBERS AVAILABLE FROM OUR COMPUTER LISTINGS.

REGISTRATION TRANSFERS
139 HIGH STREET SOUTH, DUNSTABLE, BEDS LU6 3SS
Tel (01582) 477333
Fax: 01582 607713 (MON-FRI 9AM-7PM, SAT/SUN 9AM-5PM)
To receive a full list of our overflowing registrations with prices, please use the following services:
1 LO-COST 24 HOUR INSTANT FAX-A-LIST
2 OUR INTERNET SITE HTTP://WWW.REGTRANSFERS.CO.UK
3 TELEPHONE
All numbers + £80 DCT fee, some numbers + VAT
Transactions subject to our terms, conditions and availability

# THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

| | Sell | Buy | Wkly +/- | Yld % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **AIB GOVETT UNIT TRUST LTD** | | | | |
| 0171 378 7979 Dealing: 0171 407 7888 | | | | |
| Protected Funds | | | | |
| UK Safeguard | 139.57 | 148.73 | +0.66 | |
| Do NAV to Mar 20 | 134.56 | 134.56 | | |
| UK Equity Safeguard | 111.46 | 119.13 | +1.27 | 2.47 |
| Do NAV to Mar 20 | 105.85 | 105.85 | .. | .. |
| Cash | 951.22 | 955.99 | -10.80 | 5.75 |
| UK Growth Funds | | | | |
| UK Equity Gen | 400.60 | 425.70 | +12.40 | 1.65 |
| UK Small Cos | 84.51 | 90.38 | -0.45 | 0.49 |
| FTSE 250 Index | 101.70 | 108.76 | -2.35 | 2.11 |
| Geared UK Index | 2581.61 | 2725.32 | -99.00 | 5.75 |
| Income Funds | | | | |
| Corp Bd | 83.08 | 86.40 | +0.40 | |
| Monthly Inc | 43.36 | 46.31 | -0.07 | 8.72 |
| International Funds | | | | |
| American Gen | 304.60 | 323.20 | -6.40 | |
| American Strat | 238.28 | 254.85 | +8.11 | |
| JG US Index | 2417.43 | 2547.11 | +51.00 | 4.00 |
| European Gen | 351.80 | 372.20 | +12.30 | 0.69 |
| European Strat | 148.11 | 158.39 | +4.14 | |
| Japan Gen | 110.00 | 116.60 | +2.10 | |
| Asia Pacific | 65.32 | 59.44 | +4.48 | 1.08 |
| Pacific Strat | 103.73 | 110.93 | +7.55 | |
| Greater China | 190.10 | 203.31 | +25.86 | |
| Latin America | 101.25 | 108.28 | +2.55 | |
| Intl Growth | 169.19 | 180.94 | -4.39 | |
| Balanced Exempt | 160.30 | 168.20 | .. | 2.29 |
| Global Strategy | 45.96 | 49.14 | +0.81 | |
| **AXA EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS** | | | | |
| 01203 553 231 | | | | |
| General Acc | 898.70 | 956.00 | +29.00 | 2.38 |
| General Inc | 732.40 | 779.10 | +23.70 | 2.38 |
| UK Growth Acc | 620.10 | 659.60 | +18.60 | 2.35 |
| UK Growth Inc | 391.80 | 416.80 | +11.60 | 2.35 |
| Higher Inc Acc # | 1155.00 | 1229.00 | +35.00 | 4.45 |
| Higher Inc Inc # | 592.90 | 630.70 | +18.00 | 4.45 |
| Gilt, F Int Inv Acc | 236.00 | 239.70 | -0.80 | 5.53 |
| Gilt, Fxd Int Inc | 98.31 | 103.80 | -0.20 | 5.53 |
| Nth America | 440.00 | 468.00 | +11.00 | |
| Europe | 488.60 | 519.70 | +14.10 | 0.54 |
| Brit Excess | 122.80 | 130.60 | -3.60 | 2.22 |
| Brit Fndmtl Acc | 154.10 | 163.90 | +3.70 | 4.24 |
| Brit Fndmtl Inc | 98.63 | 105.20 | +2.40 | 4.24 |
| Global Opps | 118.00 | 125.50 | +4.70 | 0.25 |
| Balanced Acc | 76.94 | 81.95 | +1.96 | 2.25 |
| Balanced Inc | 70.34 | 74.68 | +1.79 | 2.25 |
| Japan Acc | 35.99 | 38.28 | +0.61 | |
| Pac Basin Acc | 286.70 | 305.00 | +24.50 | 2.19 |
| **ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS** | | | | |
| 0345 717 373 | | | | |
| Gilts & Fixed Int | 145.00 | 153.80 | -0.40 | 5.81 |
| High Inc Equity | 233.30 | 249.50† | +5.90 | 4.04 |
| Worldwide Bond | 272.70 | 289.20† | -2.50 | 3.46 |
| American Growth | 537.00 | 573.50† | +6.50 | 0.22 |
| Asian Pacific | 216.30 | 231.30 | -24.70 | 0.54 |
| Assets & Earnings | 371.40 | 397.20 | +10.90 | 2.57 |
| Euro Capital Acc | 259.00 | 277.00 | +7.20 | 0.72 |
| Extra Inc | 42.78 | 45.51† | +0.21 | 5.14 |
| General | 340.50 | 362.80† | +5.10 | 2.71 |
| Global Opps | 79.94 | 83.87 | +2.93 | 0.38 |
| Japan | 80.95 | 86.58 | -2.09 | |
| Managed Inc | 53.37 | 57.41† | +0.77 | 4.44 |
| Masterfund | 193.50 | 207.00 | -5.40 | 1.07 |
| US Emerging Cos | 218.80 | 233.80 | +4.60 | |
| Ethical | 98.14 | 104.40 | +3.80 | 1.75 |
| International | 145.90 | 156.20 | +4.70 | 0.58 |
| Dividend & Growth | 85.75 | 91.22† | +2.21 | 3.76 |
| Global Grth & Sec | 78.56 | 83.90 | +0.25 | 2.41 |
| Latin America | 73.22 | 77.89 | +2.58 | 0.86 |
| Capital Reserve | 154.70 | 154.80 | -0.20 | 4.52 |
| **ABBEY NATIONAL UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD** | | | | |
| 0141 275 8500 | | | | |
| N&P UK Growth | 120.50 | 128.10 | +3.70 | 1.80 |
| Equity Income # | 169.70 | 180.50 | +4.50 | 3.83 |
| Extra Income # | 319.20 | 338.80 | -5.70 | 4.48 |
| Smaller Cos | 104.00 | 110.60 | +1.20 | 1.96 |
| International | 136.80 | 145.50 | +3.90 | 0.95 |
| **ABERDEEN PROLIFIC UT MGRS LTD** | | | | |
| Enq: 0345 686 686 Dlg: 0800 833 580 | | | | |
| Amer Opp Acc | 386.70 | 408.10 | +11.40 | |
| Emrg Mkts Inc | 59.24 | 62.69† | +2.30 | 0.27 |
| Ethical Inc | 89.31 | 94.43 | -1.94 | 0.61 |
| Euro Grth Acc | 124.80 | 131.70 | -3.70 | 0.18 |
| Euro Spec Opps Acc | 129.70 | 137.30 | -4.50 | |
| Euro Inc Inc | 230.50 | 243.20† | +4.70 | 3.92 |
| Extra Inc Acc | 315.30 | 332.70 | +6.40 | 3.92 |
| FE Emg Econ | 80.05 | 84.70† | -6.29 | 0.72 |
| Fixed Int Inc # | 28.26 | 29.66† | -0.21 | 7.79 |
| Frontier Mk Inc | 73.63 | 77.90 | +0.31 | 0.02 |
| Fund Of Inv Inc # | 202.47 | 214.24† | +4.70 | 8.83 |
| Fund Of Inv Acc | 428.93 | 453.88 | +9.96 | 8.83 |
| Gilt Inc Inc # | 51.11 | 53.27 | -0.02 | 6.60 |
| Global Bond Inc | 41.50 | 43.26 | -0.03 | 4.44 |
| Global Inc Inc | 31.67 | 33.34† | -0.30 | 4.43 |
| Global Inc Acc | 48.68 | 51.24 | -0.46 | 4.43 |
| High Inc Inc | 174.50 | 184.70 | +4.30 | 3.60 |
| High Inc Acc | 231.60 | 245.10 | +5.50 | 3.60 |
| Japan Inc | 151.50 | 160.26† | +0.26 | |
| Latin Amer Inc | 64.53 | 68.28† | +1.89 | 0.10 |
| Master Inc Inc | 63.63 | 67.22† | +1.17 | 2.88 |
| Master Gwth Inc | 58.67 | 62.08 | +1.11 | 0.36 |
| North Amer Inc | 267.60 | 281.80 | +5.40 | |
| North Amer Acc | 268.10 | 282.10 | +5.40 | |
| Pacific Inc | 58.99 | 62.42 | -3.00 | 0.25 |
| Prop Share Inc | 97.29 | 102.94† | -0.50 | 1.35 |
| Recovery Inc | 108.10 | 114.40 | +0.70 | 2.02 |
| Recovery Acc | 122.90 | 130.00 | +0.80 | 2.02 |
| Special Sit Inc | 174.20 | 184.40 | +2.00 | 1.47 |
| Special Sit Acc | 197.40 | 208.80 | +2.20 | 1.47 |
| Tech Inc | 809.60 | 854.40 | +38.70 | |
| Tech Acc | 809.60 | 854.40 | +38.70 | |
| UK Blue Chip Inc | 119.30 | 125.90 | +3.50 | 2.43 |
| UK Blue Chip Acc | 142.90 | 150.80 | +4.20 | 2.43 |
| UK Emg Co Inc | 78.69 | 83.07† | +1.67 | 0.90 |
| UK Gwth Inc | 74.13 | 78.02 | +1.80 | 1.07 |
| World Port Inc # | 93.00 | 98.40 | +1.91 | 2.22 |
| **ABERFORTH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD** | | | | |
| 0131 220 0733 | | | | |
| UK Small Cos | 2500.00 | 2601.00 | +19.00 | |
| **AIRWAYS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD** | | | | |
| 0171 256 5959 | | | | |
| Retail Property # | 107.90 | 114.70† | -4.50 | 5.00 |
| **ALLCHURCHES INV MGMT SVS LTD** | | | | |
| 01452 305 958 | | | | |
| Amity Income | 112.35 | 119.30 | +1.06 | 1.67 |
| Income Builder Inc | 100.80 | 107.25 | +1.43 | 3.02 |
| **B & C E UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD** | | | | |
| 01293 526 911 | | | | |
| Constr Ind Pens | 147.80 | 153.50 | +7.40 | |
| Founder Pers Pens | 84.57 | 87.86 | | |
| **BAILLIE GIFFORD & CO LTD** | | | | |
| 0131 222 4242 | | | | |
| American Sm Cos | 457.80 | 486.70 | +11.50 | |
| Bond | 123.20 | 129.50† | -0.20 | 6.43 |
| Brit Smlr Cos | 112.60 | 119.80† | +1.50 | 1.90 |
| Europe | 376.60 | 399.40 | +9.60 | |
| Euro Smlr Cos | 130.40 | 138.60 | +4.00 | 0.20 |
| High Income | 71.22 | 75.77† | -0.42 | 5.48 |
| Income | 431.30 | 458.80 | +10.60 | 4.02 |
| Japan | 282.30 | 309.80 | -8.70 | |
| Latin American | 102.70 | 109.30 | +1.80 | |
| Pacific | 75.56 | 80.38 | -10.83 | 1.17 |
| UK Smlr Cos | 63.67 | 67.95† | +1.04 | 1.29 |
| Japanese Sm Cos | 503.70 | 519.40† | -1.50 | |
| Mngd Fd | 252.80 | 268.90 | +7.40 | 2.41 |
| **BANK OF IRELAND FUND MGRS LTD** | | | | |
| 0171 489 8673 | | | | |
| Eqt & Gleas | 441.20 | 467.60 | -13.60 | 0.75 |
| Capital Grth | 171.90 | 181.90 | +7.60 | 2.32 |
| Wrlde Opps | 245.00 | 259.20 | +8.50 | 0.86 |
| **BARCLAYS FUNDS LTD** | | | | |
| Customer Help Desk 0181 522 4000 | | | | |
| Income Funds | | | | |
| Cash | 100.50 | 100.60† | +0.10 | 6.94 |
| Cash Acc | 123.20 | 123.20 | +0.10 | 6.84 |
| Income # | 739.60 | 788.30† | +15.50 | 3.61 |
| Income Builder # | 86.02 | 91.61 | +1.50 | 4.38 |
| Balanced Funds | | | | |
| Exempt | 114.50 | 121.90 | +2.90 | 2.02 |
| 500 | 541.80 | 581.70 | +10.20 | 1.99 |
| General | 435.60 | 465.30 | +10.50 | 1.52 |
| Property | 259.80 | 299.30 | -0.40 | 5.62 |
| Trustee | 302.90 | 322.30† | +8.10 | 1.52 |
| Growth Funds - UK | | | | |
| Capital | 194.90 | 207.40† | +3.80 | 1.53 |
| FTSE Pnt | 142.00 | 150.70 | +4.60 | 1.56 |
| Growth Acc | 616.00 | 655.30 | +13.90 | 1.29 |
| Smaller Cos | 63.43 | 67.66 | -0.92 | 2.21 |
| Smaller Cos Acc | 76.23 | 81.48 | +1.12 | 2.21 |
| Growth Funds - Overseas | | | | |
| America | 243.50 | 257.40 | -2.30 | 0.02 |
| American Growth | 168.60 | 179.80 | +2.20 | |
| Japan | 102.90 | 108.60 | +2.80 | |
| Japan Acc | 104.10 | 110.00 | +2.80 | |
| Japan Spec Sits | 46.63 | 49.61 | +1.29 | |
| Worldwide | 225.30 | 239.30† | -6.10 | 0.91 |
| Barclays Investment Portfolios | | | | |
| Balanced Income | 49.87 | 51.59 | -0.08 | 7.11 |
| Wrld Grth & Inc # | 49.17 | 52.11 | +0.47 | 4.50 |
| Managed Growth | 49.52 | 52.79 | +1.51 | 0.50 |
| Barclays Global Investors Funds | | | | |
| Brokerline 0800 731 2443 | | | | |
| Income Funds | | | | |
| Distribution # | 133.10 | 133.60 | +2.70 | 4.88 |
| Equity Income # | 180.10 | 192.10 | +3.80 | 4.04 |
| Gilt & Fxd Int | 64.08 | 66.35 | +0.04 | 6.90 |
| Int Fxd Int | 99.71 | 103.00† | | 4.99 |
| Int Fxd Int Acc | 129.23 | 133.50 | | 4.99 |
| Growth Funds - UK | | | | |
| UK Growth | 559.00 | 594.70 | +12.00 | 1.51 |
| UK Growth Acc | 559.00 | 594.70 | +12.00 | 1.51 |
| Growth & Inc | 571.20 | 607.70 | +13.56 | 1.49 |
| Growth & Inc Acc | 1236 | 1315 | +29.00 | 1.48 |
| Growth Funds - Overseas | | | | |
| Euro Growth | 255.80 | 270.73 | +7.70 | 0.52 |
| Euro Growth Acc | 280.10 | 296.40 | -3.40 | 0.52 |
| Far Eastern Grth | 175.62 | 133.90 | +9.80 | 1.60 |
| Far East Gth Acc | 196.20 | 203.80 | +16.70 | 1.60 |
| **BARING FUND MANAGERS LTD** | | | | |
| 0171 214 1004 | | | | |
| American Growth | 193.10 | 202.90 | +4.00 | |
| Amer Smllr Cos | 172.90 | 183.60 | -3.70 | |
| Eastern | 167.60 | 179.72 | +17.30 | 0.25 |
| Equity Income # | 131.90 | 140.50† | +4.10 | 4.06 |
| European Growth | 531.40 | 564.40 | -14.40 | 0.80 |
| Europe | 452.00 | 482.40 | -8.60 | 0.80 |
| German Growth | 109.50 | 116.00 | -3.60 | 0.50 |
| Global Bond | 74.56 | 78.38† | -0.24 | 4.60 |
| Global Growth | 187.10 | 198.50 | +6.30 | 0.10 |
| Japan Growth | 125.57 | 132.30 | -6.70 | |
| Japan Smllr | 89.71 | 94.33 | -2.12 | |
| Korea Trust | 29.32 | 31.93 | -0.12 | |
| Portfolio | 185.70 | 197.60 | +5.70 | 2.00 |
| -do- Accum | 358.50 | 381.70 | +11.00 | 2.00 |
| UK Growth | 147.40 | 157.30 | +6.10 | 1.80 |
| UK Smaller Cos | 134.30 | 145.60 | +2.40 | 1.20 |
| Select Managers | 99.46 | 106.29 | +2.20 | 0.60 |
| **BLACKSTONE FRANKS UT MGRS LTD** | | | | |
| 0171 250 3300 | | | | |
| Inf Cash Port Inc | 107.80 | 114.70† | +1.00 | .. |
| Special Opps Inc | 61.73 | 65.72† | -3.29 | |
| **BRITANNIA FUND MGRS LTD** | | | | |
| 0141 223 6020 | | | | |
| Balanced Growth | 197.49 | 205.71 | +4.79 | 1.62 |
| -do- Accum | 233.61 | 243.34 | -5.91 | 1.02 |
| Smaller Cos | 190.53 | 198.47 | -3.29 | 0.42 |
| Higher Yield # | 74.80 | 77.92† | -1.66 | 3.40 |
| American Gth Inc | 137.04 | 142.75† | -1.65 | |
| European Growth | 213.44 | 222.33 | -7.24 | |
| -do- Accum | 219.01 | 227.09 | -7.48 | |
| Mngd Ptflo Inc | 61.83 | 64.46 | +1.76 | 1.17 |
| -do- Accum | 64.85 | 67.55 | +1.84 | 1.17 |
| Intl Spec Opps | 302.15 | 310.59 | +9.24 | |
| Pacific Gth | 108.15 | 112.65 | -11.02 | 0.61 |
| UK General # | 130.02 | 135.44† | +2.63 | 2.75 |
| -do- Accum # | 145.00 | 151.04 | +2.27 | 2.75 |
| Japan | 40.29 | 41.97† | +0.39 | |
| Gilt & Fixed Int # | 111.13 | 115.16 | | 7.20 |
| **BURRAGE UNIT TST MGMT LTD** | | | | |
| 0171 480 7218 | | | | |
| Short Dated Gilt | 61.45 | 68.31 | -0.01 | 6.11 |
| **CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD** | | | | |
| 0161 837 5060 | | | | |
| Environ | 227.20 | 239.10 | -5.40 | 1.40 |
| UK Growth | 286.80 | 301.80† | -6.60 | 1.34 |
| UK Income | 202.00 | 212.60 | +3.90 | 3.21 |
| **CANADA LIFE MGMT (UK) LTD** | | | | |
| 01707 822 100 | | | | |
| Can Gen Dist | 290.80 | 308.20† | +8.20 | 1.10 |
| -do- Income Dist | 164.70 | 174.80 | -4.20 | 2.90 |
| -do- Accum | 555.80 | 589.10 | +13.90 | 2.90 |
| Gilt & Fxd Int | 43.49 | 45.89† | -1.18 | 5.03 |
| Growth Units | 347.90 | 371.10 | +10.10 | 1.56 |
| Bond | 192.80 | 202.80 | -0.10 | 5.70 |
| Intl Growth | 238.60 | 253.80 | +6.40 | 0.29 |
| North American | 335.30 | 355.70 | +5.40 | |
| Far East | 196.00 | 209.60 | -23.40 | 1.01 |
| UK Smaller Cos | 274.70 | 293.80 | -5.70 | 0.98 |
| European | 121.50 | 129.20 | -2.90 | 0.50 |
| Japanese Growth | 30.66 | 32.51 | +0.61 | |
| High Income | 288.40 | 307.70 | +8.00 | 2.78 |
| Eurogrowth Plus | 207.90 | 220.52 | +8.33 | 0.11 |
| Portfolio | 100.14 | 106.53 | +2.22 | 1.18 |
| UK Income Inc | 125.45 | 133.46 | +1.46 | 3.71 |
| **CAPEL-CURE MYERS UT MGMT LTD** | | | | |
| 0161 831 7433 Enq 0161 831 7433 Dlg 0161 831 7456 | | | | |
| American & Gen | 300.10 | 317.20 | +5.30 | |
| European Inc | 129.80 | 137.70 | +3.90 | 0.24 |
| Smaller Cos (4-1) | 116.20 | 123.70 | +2.90 | 1.76 |
| Growth | 717.40 | 763.20 | +18.10 | 1.79 |
| Income & Growth # | 605.20 | 643.90† | +15.40 | 3.97 |
| -do- Accum # | 963.60 | 1025.20 | +24.60 | 3.97 |
| Japan & Gen | 51.51 | 54.68 | -0.82 | |
| Hallmark Grth | 1554.00 | 1619.00† | +37.00 | 1.41 |
| -do- Accum | 1954.00 | 2036.00 | +46.00 | 1.41 |
| Special Sits | 165.00 | 175.60† | +3.50 | 1.80 |
| High Yield | 1970.00 | 2031.00 | +47.00 | 3.45 |
| **CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD** | | | | |
| 0171 606 0708 | | | | |
| Cazenove Portfolio | 118.79 | 126.30† | +2.54 | 2.21 |
| American Portfolio | 169.14 | 179.28 | +2.79 | 0.45 |
| European Portfolio | 177.56 | 188.74 | +6.65 | 0.35 |
| High Income | 55.71 | 58.61† | -0.89 | 6.48 |
| Japanese Portfolio | 49.34 | 52.32† | +1.26 | |
| Pacific Portfolio | 116.38 | 126.15 | -12.17 | 1.18 |
| UK Equity | 121.13 | 128.02 | -3.57 | 2.79 |
| UK Equity & Bd | 70.73 | 74.90 | -1.20 | 5.11 |
| UK Smlr Cos | 57.34 | 61.33 | +0.71 | 1.89 |
| **CBF CHURCH OF ENGLAND FUNDS** | | | | |
| 0171 588 1815 | | | | |
| Inv Fd Inc | 992.53 | 1007.53 | +50.68 | 3.44 |
| Inv Fd Acc | 1026.46 | 1041.98 | +52.40 | |
| Fxd Int Sec Inc | 167.42 | 168.10 | +0.49 | 7.61 |
| Fxd Int Sec Acc | 179.00 | 179.72 | +0.51 | |
| **COIF CHARITY FUNDS** | | | | |
| 0171 588 1815 | | | | |
| Investment Inc | 970.39 | 985.05 | +28.75 | 3.53 |
| Investment Acc | 4712.54 | 4783.76 | -139.69 | |
| Fixed Int Inc | 135.09 | 135.63 | +0.34 | 7.67 |
| Fixed Int Acc | 274.21 | 275.31 | +0.68 | 8.58 |
| **CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD** | | | | |
| 0171 556 8800 | | | | |
| Bockman Intl | 100.32 | 106.48 | +0.04 | 5.88 |
| Beck Bio-Tech | 39.90 | 43.09 | +0.28 | |
| Acorn Ethical Tst | 217.95 | 231.86 | +5.34 | 0.53 |
| City Fin Assets | 88.50 | 92.93 | +3.18 | 2.84 |
| City Fin Intl | 88.10 | 93.72 | +3.06 | |
| Friars Hse Cap | 391.54 | 416.53† | +13.09 | 2.27 |
| Buckley Wrld Gth | 139.74 | 148.12 | | |
| Shop Utilities | 87.55 | 89.24 | -0.45 | 3.36 |
| **CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD** | | | | |
| 0171 711 0771 Admin: 01277 227 300 | | | | |
| Emerging Markets | 49.05 | 52.05† | +2.55 | |
| **CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD** | | | | |
| 0345 772 233 | | | | |
| American Gwth | 103.30 | 109.89 | +1.79 | |
| Dragon Growth | 45.00 | 48.12 | +3.10 | 1.57 |
| Equity High Inc | 123.76 | 130.96 | +2.86 | 2.84 |
| -do- Accum | 186.80 | 197.67 | +4.31 | 2.84 |
| Extra Income Inc | 29.01 | 30.54† | -0.01 | 5.82 |
| Extra Income Acc | 34.15 | 35.96 | -0.01 | 5.82 |
| European Gwth | 88.12 | 93.25 | +2.61 | |
| Evergreen | 36.64 | 39.18 | +0.74 | |
| General Equity | 142.07 | 149.94 | +3.59 | 1.95 |
| Japan Growth | 34.11 | 36.29 | +0.58 | |
| Pedigree Gwth | 87.29 | 92.37 | +2.48 | 1.24 |
| Pcd Sm Cos Inc | 44.16 | 46.73 | +0.51 | 1.28 |
| -do- Accum | 47.54 | 50.31 | +0.54 | 1.28 |
| Retirement Inc # | 35.80 | 38.08 | +0.84 | 4.73 |
| Special Sits | 58.92 | 63.36 | -1.75 | 2.01 |
| UK & Overseas | 71.92 | 76.11 | +2.02 | 0.27 |
| **COLONIAL UNIT TRUSTS (UK) LTD** | | | | |
| 01634 898 000 | | | | |
| Balanced | 84.43 | 87.94† | +1.06 | 3.40 |
| Capital | 105.60 | 109.99† | +3.44 | 1.81 |
| High Income | 56.77 | 59.13† | -0.82 | 6.41 |
| Top 50 | 78.94 | 82.22† | +2.26 | 1.78 |
| **COMMERCIAL UNION TRUST MGRS LTD** | | | | |
| 0181 686 9818 | | | | |
| PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO (PPT FUNDS) | | | | |
| Income Funds | | | | |
| Equity Inc | 247.13 | 257.45 | +8.39 | 3.94 |
| Long Gilt | 51.37 | 53.48† | -0.29 | 5.04 |
| Monthly Inc Plus | 60.26 | 62.78 | +0.06 | 7.14 |
| Preference Share | 58.15 | 60.58† | -0.03 | 6.44 |
| Balanced Funds | | | | |
| High Yield | 174.43 | 181.72† | +3.37 | 5.30 |
| Managed Fund | 89.43 | 93.17 | +2.04 | 2.28 |
| UK Growth Funds | | | | |
| Smaller Cos | 53.75 | 56.00 | +0.69 | 1.52 |
| -do- Accum | 64.28 | 66.97 | +0.83 | 1.52 |
| UK & General | 132.63 | 138.17 | +3.37 | 1.96 |
| -do- Accum | 177.73 | 185.15 | +4.51 | 1.96 |
| UK Growth | 263.30 | 274.30 | +6.42 | 1.43 |
| International Growth Funds | | | | |
| Europe Growth | 291.02 | 303.23 | +8.18 | 0.44 |
| Far Eastern Grth | 97.63 | 101.71 | -4.66 | 0.28 |
| Global Bond | 72.80 | 75.84 | +0.11 | 5.06 |
| Japan Growth | 90.73 | 94.52 | +2.10 | |
| North Amer Gth | 319.34 | 332.68 | +4.57 | |
| Oriental Growth | 57.28 | 59.67 | -3.85 | 0.82 |
| Worldwide Growth | 85.46 | 89.03 | +2.31 | 0.29 |
| OTHER CU TRUSTS (NON PPT FUNDS) | | | | |
| Deposit Fund | 93.17 | 93.17 | +0.09 | 6.74 |
| Homemaker Fund | 107.79 | 114.69† | +2.63 | 1.96 |
| Quilter Fund | 182.96 | 194.64† | +3.78 | 1.95 |
| **CONSISTENT UNIT TST MGMT CO LTD** | | | | |
| 0171 556 8800 | | | | |
| Consistent UT | 45.02 | 48.07† | +1.26 | 2.68 |
| **COOKE (HENRY) INV FUNDS LTD** | | | | |
| 0800 526 358 | | | | |
| Growth | 210.10 | 223.50 | +5.10 | 1.41 |
| Income | 92.38 | 98.28† | +2.56 | 3.48 |
| European Growth | 100.63 | 106.81 | +3.02 | 0.27 |
| Recovery | 225.30 | 239.70 | -1.90 | 1.75 |
| **CO-OP PENSION FDS UT MGRS LTD** | | | | |
| 0171 283 9494 | | | | |
| Equity Dist | 1203.20 | 1220.90† | | 3.03 |
| **CREDIT SUISSE ASSET MGMT FDS (UK) LTD** | | | | |
| 01277 690 370 | | | | |
| European Inc | 90.49 | 95.96† | +2.51 | 0.11 |
| Fellowship Tst | 129.00 | 137.20 | +3.50 | 1.07 |
| Income # | 361.60 | 387.60 | +13.80 | 3.61 |
| -do- Accum # | 999.30 | 1063.00 | +30.00 | 3.61 |
| Smaller Cos | 251.70 | 267.70† | +5.80 | 0.69 |
| -do- Accum | 315.90 | 335.80 | +6.90 | 0.69 |
| Glb Portfolio | 126.80 | 134.80 | +4.00 | 1.17 |
| Mthly Inc Port # | 107.80 | 114.60 | +3.00 | 3.64 |
| **DIMENSIONAL TST MGMT LTD** | | | | |
| 0171 470 1634 | | | | |
| Global Sm Cos | 1851.70 | 1876.00† | +32.10 | 0.70 |
| UK Small Cos | 2347.20 | 2447.70† | +14.80 | 2.80 |
| **DISCRETIONARY UNIT FUND MGRS** | | | | |
| 0171 377 8819 | | | | |
| Disc Inc | 259.30 | 267.30 | -0.80 | |
| **DRESDNER RCM FUNDS (UK) LTD** | | | | |
| Dealers: 0171 956 7354 Client Helpline: 0800 317573 | | | | |
| Formerly RBUT | | | | |
| Amer Smllr Cos | 197.60 | 210.20 | +2.90 | |
| Asean Growth | 182.90 | 194.50 | -16.80 | 0.30 |
| Bond Income | 110.50 | 114.10 | | 6.80 |
| European | 251.20 | 267.10 | -7.30 | 0.50 |
| European Pls | 132.50 | 140.90 | +3.50 | 0.30 |
| European Special | 173.30 | 184.30 | +1.90 | |
| Gilt Yield | 130.10 | 137.30 | -0.30 | 6.20 |
| Global Eqty Inc | 144.80 | 153.70† | -5.20 | 1.50 |
| High Yield | 219.50 | 233.50† | +9.30 | 4.00 |
| Japan | 310.70 | 329.90 | +12.30 | |
| Japanese Special | 140.50 | 149.80 | +5.30 | |
| Money Market | 103.25 | 103.25† | +0.09 | 6.10 |
| North American | 146.90 | 156.10 | +2.70 | |
| Smaller Cos | 168.20 | 178.90 | -3.60 | 0.90 |
| Smlr Cos Div | 69.96 | 74.42† | -3.00 | 4.10 |
| Tomorrows Co Er | 1270.00 | 1287.00 | +51.00 | 0.10 |
| UK Equity Growth | 65.77 | 69.96† | -1.49 | 0.50 |
| UK Index Inc | 454.60 | 456.80 | +15.20 | 2.60 |
| Birchin Tst | 116.30 | 125.00 | | 1.70 |
| Global Income | 263.00 | 279.70† | +4.10 | 2.90 |
| Formerly Thornton | | | | |
| European | 433.43 | 453.76 | -12.00 | 0.80 |
| Europe Bd | 39.31 | 40.92 | +0.15 | 6.50 |
| Exempt | 931.00 | 968.40† | +39.60 | 2.40 |
| Global Em Mkts | 73.54 | 77.09 | +2.17 | 0.60 |
| Japan Tst | 66.81 | 69.95 | +1.06 | |
| Little Dragons | 69.16 | 71.37 | -6.74 | |
| Nth Amer Gwth | 400.50 | 428.00† | +6.80 | 0.40 |
| Oriental Income # | 36.69 | 38.40 | -1.79 | 4.90 |
| Preference | 153.70 | 160.50 | -0.60 | 7.40 |
| Tiger | 188.10 | 196.80 | -18.40 | |
| UK Blue Chip | 113.10 | 123.50† | +6.30 | 1.20 |
| UK Growth | 889.50 | 931.30 | +32.50 | 0.70 |
| UK High Yield # | 158.90 | 166.20† | +6.90 | 4.10 |
| UK Mid-Cap | 410.50 | 429.80 | +6.90 | 1.40 |
| UK Smlr Cos Dir # | 91.00 | 95.29† | -0.72 | 5.80 |
| UK Smlr Cos | 148.00 | 154.90 | -3.40 | 0.70 |
| **EDINBURGH UNIT TST MGRS LTD** | | | | |
| 0345 096 526 | | | | |
| Convertibles # | 25.40 | 26.97 | -0.21 | 6.19 |
| Enterprise | 125.70 | 133.20 | -0.10 | 1.88 |
| Equity Income # | 186.30 | 197.90 | +4.90 | 3.23 |
| European | 82.05 | 86.85† | +2.17 | |
| Financial | 79.00 | 83.94 | +2.32 | 1.19 |
| Growth & Inc # | 380.00 | 403.80† | +5.50 | 2.17 |
| High Dist # | 27.30 | 29.10 | +6.20 | 3.37 |
| International | 456.70 | 484.80 | +15.40 | |
| Intl Cos Inc | 122.90 | 131.20† | -3.20 | 2.06 |
| Latin American | 34.34 | 37.02 | -1.15 | |
| Mgd Gwth Port | 103.60 | 108.30† | +2.40 | 0.65 |
| Pacific | 66.95 | 71.17 | -5.62 | |
| Pref High Inc | 26.87 | 28.12† | -0.06 | 6.40 |
| Tokyo | 154.40 | 163.20 | -2.90 | |
| UK Smaller Cos | 279.30 | 295.70 | -8.60 | 1.19 |
| Japan Sm Cos | 256.10 | 271.20 | -1.53 | |
| Em Army | 551.40 | 583.00 | -7.20 | |
| UK Inc & Gth | 345.40 | 369.50 | +2.70 | 2.17 |
| **ELY PLACE UNIT MGRS LTD** | | | | |
| 0171 242 0242 | | | | |
| BFO Dividend Dis | 129.60 | 136.94 | -0.29 | 0.94 |
| Growth Acc | 330.41 | 351.58 | | 0.79 |
| Income | 695.40 | 732.72† | +14.55 | 4.24 |
| **ENDURANCE FUND MGMT LTD** | | | | |
| 0171 323 7261 | | | | |
| Endurance Fd | 261.50 | 278.20 | +9.30 | 0.91 |
| **EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD** | | | | |
| 01296 431 480 | | | | |
| European | 124.72 | 131.28 | +4.34 | 1.22 |
| Ethical Tst | 56.70 | 59.68† | -1.35 | 1.11 |
| Far Eastern | 225.45 | 237.32 | -13.71 | 1.89 |
| High Income | 186.45 | 196.26 | +5.31 | 3.68 |
| UK Index Trckng | 71.77 | 75.55† | +1.63 | 2.20 |
| Intl Growth | 143.44 | 150.59 | -5.44 | 1.40 |
| North American | 199.55 | 210.05 | +4.10 | 1.33 |
| Pelican | 192.51 | 201.64 | -6.45 | 2.32 |
| Smaller Cos | 78.70 | 82.84 | -1.77 | 2.26 |
| Special Sits | 95.20 | 100.21 | +1.99 | 2.79 |
| Tst of Inv Tsts | 244.64 | 257.52† | +7.92 | 1.55 |
| **EXETER FUND MANAGERS LTD** | | | | |
| 01392 412 144 | | | | |
| Capital Growth | 158.82 | 168.51 | -6.71 | |
| Fd of Inv Tsts | 62.73 | 66.56† | -1.42 | 0.45 |
| High Income # | 47.61 | 50.48† | -0.10 | 9.90 |
| Man & Sit Opps | 58.65 | 63.06 | -1.67 | |
| Zero Preference | 50.13 | 53.19 | -0.09 | |
| **FAMILY INVESTMENT MGMT LTD** | | | | |
| 01273 724 570 | | | | |
| Family Asset Tst | 129.80 | 137.00† | +3.60 | 1.98 |
| United Charities | 367.60 | 391.00 | +7.00 | 2.24 |
| **FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVS LTD** | | | | |
| Callfree: Private Clients 0800 414 161 | | | | |
| Cash Fund | | | | |
| Cash Fund | 100.00 | 100.00 | | 6.90 |
| Bond Funds | | | | |
| Intl Bond | 26.35 | 27.31† | -0.08 | 4.63 |
| Strategic Inc | 31.11 | 32.51† | +0.16 | 5.22 |
| Income Funds | | | | |
| High Income | 32.84 | 34.44† | -0.20 | 4.56 |
| Income Plus | 183.70 | 195.42 | +4.20 | 3.56 |
| European Income | 66.56 | 70.84 | +1.80 | 1.28 |
| Moneybuilder Gwth | 43.09 | 43.39 | +1.29 | 2.19 |
| Growth Funds | | | | |
| ASEAN | 29.78 | 31.77 | -4.49 | |
| America | 442.00 | 469.20 | -6.70 | |
| Amer Spec Sits | 236.40 | 251.70 | -8.00 | |
| Japan Smaller Cos | 19.25 | 20.45 | +0.53 | |
| European | 312.70 | 332.60 | +6.40 | 0.32 |
| European Opps | 118.30 | 125.60 | +3.20 | 0.45 |
| Global Ptnr | 40.86 | 43.45 | +1.19 | 0.38 |
| UK Growth | 166.60 | 176.60 | +5.80 | 1.10 |
| Growth & Inc | 242.40 | 257.80† | +8.00 | 2.33 |
| Int PEP | 62.48 | 67.50 | +1.84 | 1.02 |
| Japan Spec Sits | 61.94 | 65.67† | -1.06 | |
| Japan | 155.10 | 164.20 | -0.80 | |
| Managed Intl | 447.70 | 475.60 | +9.40 | 0.57 |
| Moneybuilder Plus | 80.41 | 80.98 | +2.28 | 0.32 |
| Recovery | 70.15 | 74.59 | +1.47 | 1.83 |
| South E Asia | 146.50 | 156.00 | +15.10 | 1.34 |
| Special Sits | 948.90 | 1009.00 | +13.70 | 1.12 |
| Specialist Funds | | | | |
| Cash Accum Units | 123.53 | 123.53 | +0.12 | 6.90 |
| **FLEMING PRIVATE FUND MGMT LTD** | | | | |
| 0171 814 2700 | | | | |
| Balanced # | 174.50 | 176.20 | +4.40 | 1.57 |
| Fleming Prf Inc # | 113.50 | 114.48 | +0.10 | 5.61 |
| Cap Pfolio | 198.60 | 200.10† | -3.30 | |
| General Opps | 175.30 | 176.40 | +3.70 | 3.06 |
| Growth Inc | 50.92 | 51.41 | +1.20 | 1.07 |
| Private Portfolio | 594.70 | 600.70 | +12.10 | 0.72 |
| **FOREIGN & COLONIAL UNIT MGT** | | | | |
| Dlg 01277 690 386 Admin/Val 01277 690 350 | | | | |
| Euro Smllr Cos | 186.60 | 198.10 | +4.50 | |
| High Income | 23.30 | 24.69† | +0.38 | 9.11 |
| Japan Smllr Cos | 12.50 | 13.43 | +0.23 | |
| US Smaller Cos | 562.00 | 597.30 | +19.30 | .. |
| **FRAMLINGTON UNIT MGMT LTD** | | | | |
| Enq 0171 330 6500 Dealing 0345 775811 | | | | |
| American Growth | 108.80 | 115.30 | +2.80 | |
| -do- Accum | 108.80 | 115.30 | +2.80 | |
| Amer Smllr Cos | 795.30 | 843.10 | +18.10 | |
| -do- Accum | 816.50 | 867.40 | +18.40 | |
| Capital Tst | 432.10 | 453.70 | -2.90 | 1.26 |
| -do- Accum | 643.20 | 684.30 | -4.30 | 1.26 |
| Cnvtl Smlr Cos | 70.47 | 75.16 | +1.38 | |
| -do- Accum | 75.62 | 80.65 | +1.49 | |
| Convertible | 149.50 | 159.00† | -0.40 | 5.83 |
| -do- Accum | 347.50 | 369.70† | -1.00 | 5.83 |
| Emerging Markets | 58.81 | 60.69 | +2.92 | 0.07 |
| -do- Accum | 57.30 | 61.22 | +2.96 | 0.07 |
| European | 208.20 | 220.50 | +6.30 | |
| -do- Accum | 221.40 | 234.40 | +6.50 | |
| Extra Income | 498.00 | 529.80† | +6.90 | 3.99 |
| -do- Accum | 829.50 | 882.40† | +11.60 | 3.99 |
| Financial | 259.20 | 275.70 | +6.60 | 0.94 |
| -do- Accum | 277.60 | 295.30 | +7.10 | 0.94 |
| Gilt Trust | 64.80 | 66.82 | -0.05 | 7.04 |
| -do- Accum | 106.70 | 110.10 | | 7.04 |
| Health Fund Inc | 294.20 | 313.00 | -7.00 | |
| -do- Accum | 294.20 | 313.00 | -7.00 | |
| Income & Growth | 290.00 | 308.30 | +6.30 | 3.77 |
| -do- Accum | 483.60 | 514.30 | +10.50 | 3.77 |
| Intl Growth | 488.20 | 519.10 | +14.70 | |
| -do- Accum | 542.10 | 576.40 | -18.40 | |
| Japan & Gen | 128.70 | 136.60 | -0.10 | |
| -do- Accum | 130.00 | 137.90 | -0.30 | |
| Monthly Inc # | 252.90 | 269.00 | +5.60 | 3.98 |
| -do- Accum # | 264.20 | 281.10 | +5.60 | 3.98 |
| Managed Port Inc | 137.60 | 144.80 | +0.80 | 1.24 |
| -do- Accum | 151.30 | 159.30 | +1.00 | 1.24 |
| Quarterly Income # | 67.29 | 71.78 | +1.35 | 5.17 |
| -do- Accum # | 81.54 | 86.99 | +1.64 | 5.17 |
| Recovery | 314.40 | 336.30† | +7.40 | |
| -do- Accum | 371.20 | 397.00† | +8.80 | |
| UK Growth | 79.92 | 85.02 | -1.60 | 1.25 |
| -do- Accum | 88.30 | 93.94 | -1.77 | 1.25 |
| **FRIENDS PROVIDENT UNIT TRUSTS** | | | | |
| Dealing 01722 715835 Enq 01722 715834 | | | | |
| FP American | 83.61 | 86.88 | +0.93 | |
| FP Am Smllr Cos | 220.70 | 235.40 | +0.40 | |
| FP Asian Growth | 169.90 | 181.20 | -19.70 | |
| FP Australian | 433.50 | 462.40 | -5.70 | |
| FP Equity Dist | 600.90 | 640.90 | +15.20 | 1.66 |
| -do- Accum | 1372.00 | 1463.00 | +35.00 | 1.66 |
| FP Euro Gth | 410.40 | 437.70 | +14.40 | |
| -do- Accum | 449.60 | 479.50 | +15.70 | |
| FP Intl Bond | 57.31 | 60.64† | -1.22 | 3.93 |
| FP Intl Gth Dist | 45.82 | 48.87 | +0.99 | |
| -do- Accum | 67.54 | 72.04 | +1.45 | |
| FP Pac Basin Acc | 174.60 | 186.20 | +7.70 | 0.17 |
| FP Income # | 76.04 | 81.10 | +1.16 | 4.06 |
| -do- Accum # | 283.10 | 301.90 | +4.30 | 4.06 |
| FP Jap Smllr Cos | 179.90 | 191.80 | -0.40 | |
| FP Moneylay Dist # | 90.30 | 96.32† | +0.39 | 4.57 |
| FP Stlg Deposit | 100.50 | 100.50† | +0.10 | 6.38 |
| FP Tokyo | 68.11 | 72.65 | -0.30 | |
| FP UK Focus | 56.15 | 59.89 | +1.05 | 1.19 |
| FP UK Growth | 264.40 | 282.00† | +5.70 | 1.16 |
| -do- Accum | 548.10 | 584.60 | +11.70 | 1.16 |
| Stewardship Dist | 503.20 | 536.70 | +6.30 | 1.24 |
| -do- Accum | 644.50 | 687.40 | +8.10 | 1.24 |
| Stewardship Inc Dist # | 80.76 | 86.14 | -0.36 | 5.11 |
| -do- Accum # | 118.70 | 126.60 | +0.60 | 5.11 |
| N Am Stship Dist | 162.30 | 173.00 | +0.40 | |
| -do- Accum | 174.70 | 186.20 | +0.40 | |
| FP Exempt Trust | | | | |
| Intl Ethical Inc # | 134.80 | 135.40† | +1.20 | 2.37 |
| Intl Ethical Ac # | 138.10 | 138.70 | +1.20 | 2.37 |
| FP Managed Portfolio Service | | | | |
| Cautious Gwth Acc | 154.90 | 164.70 | +4.00 | 0.52 |
| Opps Cap Gth Acc | 152.40 | 162.10 | +4.70 | 0.14 |
| Cap Gth Inc Inc # | 138.20 | 147.00† | +2.10 | 2.60 |
| Cap Gth Inc Acc # | 151.40 | 161.00 | +4.10 | 2.50 |
| Opps Cp Gth Ic Ic # | 142.30 | 151.30† | +1.40 | 3.40 |
| Opps Cp Gth Ic Ac # | 158.60 | 168.70 | +4.20 | 3.40 |
| **GA UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD** | | | | |
| 0345 581 106/7 | | | | |
| GANDA | 394.70 | 415.50 | +9.40 | 1.68 |
| Cash | 49.29 | 50.03† | -0.73 | 6.36 |
| Income Portfolio | 88.67 | 93.34† | +1.65 | 2.43 |
| GA Equity Gth | 295.70 | 314.60 | +6.20 | 1.17 |
| GA European Gth | 179.20 | 189.90 | +5.60 | |
| GA Japan Gth | 82.38 | 87.54 | +1.86 | |
| GA Nth Amer Gth | 310.70 | 329.70 | +4.10 | |
| GA Intl Gth | 145.70 | 154.80 | +4.30 | |
| **GT GLOBAL FUND MGMT LTD** | | | | |
| Inv 0800 212274 Dealing 0171 626 9431 | | | | |
| American Smll Cos | 269.00 | 287.50 | +11.20 | 0.12 |
| European Gth | 931.10 | 988.20 | +23.20 | 0.48 |
| Euro Eq & Bd Inc | 62.18 | 65.80 | +1.12 | 3.21 |
| -do- Accum | 72.58 | 76.81 | +1.31 | 3.21 |
| High Yield # | 54.12 | 57.20† | -0.91 | 6.90 |
| -do- Accum # | 65.36 | 63.08 | -0.12 | 6.90 |
| Income Inc | 244.00 | 261.00 | +5.30 | 3.41 |
| -do- Accum | 288.10 | 308.20 | +6.30 | 3.41 |
| Intl Growth | 423.70 | 448.70 | +5.30 | 0.28 |
| Intl Income | 123.30 | 130.60 | -1.80 | 1.95 |
| Japan Growth | 392.90 | 415.90 | -1.90 | |
| Orient Acc | 141.40 | 150.60 | +14.80 | 0.20 |
| UK General Inc | 248.10 | 264.60† | +7.70 | 1.02 |
| UK General Acc | 450.00 | 479.60 | +14.00 | 1.02 |
| UK Sm Cos Div Acc | 73.86 | 79.00 | +1.03 | 1.47 |
| US Growth | 254.60 | 269.10 | +6.90 | |
| **GARTMORE FUND MANAGERS** | | | | |
| 0171 782 2000 Dlgs only: 01277 264 421 | | | | |
| UK Growth Funds | | | | |
| British Growth | 81.25 | 86.66† | +1.55 | 1.66 |
| Practical Inv Inc # | 146.60 | 156.79 | +3.19 | 3.07 |
| -do- Accum # | 364.66 | 390.01 | +7.91 | 3.07 |
| UK Index | 238.91 | 240.11 | +6.78 | 2.63 |
| UK Smaller Cos | 264.27 | 282.64 | +3.14 | 0.24 |
| Income Funds | | | | |
| Extra Yield | 26.32 | 27.27 | -0.10 | 6.60 |
| High Income | 45.23 | 48.33† | -0.56 | 2.69 |
| UK Growth & Inc | 206.95 | 220.73† | +1.25 | 1.44 |
| Global Bond | 27.86 | 28.87† | +0.04 | 5.16 |
| International Funds | | | | |
| Emerging Markets | 42.69 | 45.66 | +1.78 | |
| Global Managed | 163.67 | 173.65 | +3.07 | 1.03 |
| Gold & Intl Res | 82.17 | 87.83 | +0.79 | |
| Global Utilities | 196.66 | 209.39† | +2.51 | 0.23 |
| Overseas Funds | | | | |
| American | 259.98 | 275.00 | +4.36 | 0.41 |
| European | 180.75 | 192.02 | +4.46 | 0.43 |
| Euro Sel Opps | 204.45 | 213.24 | +6.02 | |
| Amer Emerging | 215.09 | 229.53 | +7.86 | |
| Hong Kong | 126.01 | 134.57 | -13.74 | 2.47 |
| Japan | 156.94 | 166.25 | +3.44 | |
| Pacific Growth | 150.65 | 161.23 | -10.44 | 0.80 |
| Gartmore Pensions Strategy Funds | | | | |
| Cash Trust | 155.72 | 155.72 | +0.16 | 6.91 |
| Managed Equity | 306.36 | 306.36† | +7.46 | 1.45 |
| Long Term Bal | 323.71 | 323.71† | +7.27 | 2.60 |
| Med Term Bal | 267.29 | 267.29† | +4.16 | 2.72 |
| UK Equity | 331.70 | 331.70 | +12.77 | 1.72 |
| UK Emerging Cos | 198.25 | 198.25 | +2.34 | 2.05 |
| American | 436.99 | 436.99 | +4.92 | 0.22 |
| Japan | 95.32 | 95.32 | +1.38 | |
| European | 471.04 | 471.04 | +10.05 | 0.55 |
| Index Linked Gilt | 213.17 | 213.17 | +0.09 | 2.45 |
| Fixed Interest | 206.99 | 206.99† | -0.85 | 6.59 |
| Amer Emergng | 177.00 | 177.00 | +17.51 | |
| Pacific | 132.25 | 132.25 | -7.87 | 1.69 |
| Emerging Mkts | 122.07 | 122.07† | +2.74 | 1.11 |
| Index Strat Japan | 102.18 | 102.18† | +2.17 | 0.35 |
| -do- Pacific Fen | 125.34 | 125.34† | +15.06 | 1.46 |
| -do- Cont Europe | 257.76 | 257.78† | +7.31 | 1.08 |
| Index Strat UCA | 269.47 | 269.47† | +3.47 | 1.08 |
| Gartmore Personal Pension Funds | | | | |
| Managed Equity | 144.87 | 154.11 | +3.77 | |
| Med Term Bal | 128.07 | 136.24 | +2.13 | |
| Long Term Bal | 146.32 | 155.66 | +3.42 | |
| UK Equity | 182.89 | 194.56 | +6.60 | |
| UK Emerging Cos | 93.77 | 99.70 | +1.13 | |
| American | 203.20 | 216.25 | +2.46 | |
| Japan | 40.63 | 43.54 | -0.72 | |
| European | 196.45 | 208.99 | +4.47 | |
| Fixed Interest | 107.42 | 114.32 | -0.37 | |
| Index Linked Gilt | 96.17 | 101.24 | -0.05 | |
| Deposit | 94.25 | 100.26 | +0.10 | |
| Broker Unit Trusts | | | | |
| BRTH Intl | 172.11 | 182.22 | -3.34 | 0.47 |
| **GLOBAL ASSET MANAGEMENT** | | | | |
| GAM Sterling Management 0171 493 9990 | | | | |
| Stlg & Intl Inc ‡ | 812.73 | | +25.79 | |
| -do- Accum ‡ | 822.50 | | +25.63 | |
| European Inc ‡ | 227.18 | | -5.67 | 0.23 |
| Amstgam Inc | 189.25 | 199.60 | +5.56 | |
| N America Inc ‡ | 561.06 | | -10.70 | |
| Far East Inc ‡ | 258.17 | | -18.63 | 0.52 |
| -do- Accum ‡ | 359.35 | | -13.40 | 0.46 |
| UK Devld Inc ‡ | 290.92 | | -1.59 | 0.93 |
| **GUARDIAN UT MGRS LTD** | | | | |
| 0171 538 9568 | | | | |
| European | 759.80 | 811.70 | +23.20 | |
| Gilt & Fixed | 146.70 | 154.00 | -0.45 | 4.56 |
| Growth Equity | 536.90 | 571.50 | +19.30 | 1.32 |
| Income Trust | 136.00 | 143.70 | +4.45 | 3.29 |
| International | 237.97 | 252.86 | -5.20 | |
| Japan Trust | 95.90 | 100.49† | -0.23 | |
| Nth American | 457.80 | 484.00 | -4.90 | |
| Pacific | 370.90 | 396.10 | -44.70 | 0.80 |
| Guardhill | 772.90 | 822.70 | -30.70 | 1.00 |
| **GUINNESS FLIGHT UT MGRS LTD** | | | | |
| 0171 522 2129 | | | | |
| European Fund | 98.53 | 102.23 | +0.13 | 4.49 |
| Global High Inc | 95.01 | 99.90† | -0.59 | 4.99 |
| Gbl Bond Pflo | 115.41 | 119.97 | -1.35 | 5.71 |
| Capl Mgd Pflo | 139.21 | 145.95† | -3.05 | 4.43 |
| European Pflo | 172.01 | 182.64 | +5.13 | |
| World Gth Pflo | 87.02 | 92.43 | -2.61 | |
| UK Eq Inc Pflo | 135.48 | 137.16† | +4.38 | 3.64 |
| -do- Accum | 285.71 | 303.73 | +9.41 | 3.54 |
| UK Opps | 62.20 | 65.35 | -1.23 | |
| -do- Accum | 63.90 | 67.30 | +1.61 | 2.13 |
| Strategic High Inc | 153.67 | 159.90 | -1.94 | 5.35 |
| UK Emerg Cos | 290.70 | 311.20 | -0.50 | 3.16 |
| Intl UK Sm Co | 334.40 | 351.20† | | 1.47 |
| Glob Prty Tst | 147.59 | 156.75 | -3.45 | |
| -do- Accum | 154.36 | 164.10 | -3.61 | 1.39 |
| Inc Share Tst | 118.35 | 125.84 | -5.41 | 6.33 |
| Hk & China Tst | 75.90 | 80.80 | -5.54 | |
| Blue Chip Pflo | 320.07 | 340.31 | -15.82 | 1.59 |
| **HALIFAX UT MGMT LTD** | | | | |
| Dealing 01904 611110 | | | | |
| Balanced Inc | 69.62 | 73.89† | +1.73 | 2.44 |
| Balanced Acc | 75.96 | 80.60 | +1.97 | 2.44 |
| Growth | 43.72 | 46.26† | +1.22 | 1.39 |
| Growth Acc | 46.21 | 49.00 | +1.47 | |
| Income | 45.32 | 48.81† | -1.10 | 3.42 |
| Income Acc | 46.10 | 48.95 | -1.21 | 3.42 |
| Accumulation Tst | 38.79 | 40.08 | -1.21 | 2.45 |
| **HARGREAVES LANSDOWN FUND MGRS LTD** | | | | |
| Enquiries: 01277 690 230 Dealing: 01277 690 412 | | | | |
| UT Port Acc | 56.52 | 57.97 | -1.12 | 2.52 |
| **HENDERSON INVESTORS** | | | | |
| Enquiries: 0645 494349 Dealing 0645 464646 | | | | |
| UT Funds | | | | |
| UK Enterprise | 451.14 | 482.71 | +11.62 | |
| Best of British | 92.35 | 78.80 | -1.71 | |
| UK Smaller Cos | 177.76 | 191.08† | -3.45 | 0.62 |
| High Income Funds | | | | |
| Income & Growth # | 400.80 | 428.84 | -7.16 | 2.80 |
| -do- Accum # | 1198.23 | 1256.32 | -21.10 | 2.80 |
| High Income | 43.79 | 46.85† | +0.76 | 7.49 |
| Extra Income # | 164.47 | [illegible] | -6.50 | 4.89 |
| Pref & Bond | 56.37 | 60.27† | +0.23 | 7.05 |
| International | | | | |
| Ethical | 150.52 | 160.93 | +4.42 | 1.22 |
| International | 362.98 | 385.02 | +9.35 | 0.22 |
| Global Bond | 53.78 | 56.61 | -0.07 | 6.34 |
| Intl Port Tst | 117.09 | 125.22 | +1.35 | 0.27 |
| Global Tech | 293.30 | 311.83 | +13.29 | |
| Overseas Funds | | | | |
| Asian Enterprise | 150.13 | 160.53† | -6.82 | 1.15 |
| European | 345.53 | 369.13 | +9.22 | 0.39 |
| European Income # | 120.62 | 127.33† | +2.64 | 2.75 |
| Euro Smlr Cos | 223.13 | 237.56 | +6.35 | 0.15 |
| European Value | 117.97 | 126.07 | +3.43 | |
| -do- Accum | 121.40 | 128.07 | +3.73 | |
| Japan Trust | 133.31 | 146.70† | +4.43 | |
| Japan Smllr Cos | 117.85 | 125.33 | +1.53 | |
| Pacific Smlr Cos | 170.62 | 181.77 | +10.90 | |
| North American | 434.79 | 460.94† | -7.75 | |
| American Smallr | 235.22 | 249.96 | -4.30 | |
| **HILL SAMUEL UNIT TST MGRS** | | | | |
| 0800 530063 | | | | |
| British | 169.47 | 177.46 | +3.86 | 1.25 |
| Capital | 249.38 | 261.13† | +5.61 | 1.00 |
| Dollar | 662.95 | 694.18 | -8.03 | |
| Enterprise Gth | 556.94 | 582.77 | +9.42 | 0.60 |
| European | 363.83 | 380.97 | +6.50 | |
| Far East | 193.87 | 203.01† | +20.12 | 0.82 |
| Financial | 1549.16 | 1622.16 | +36.48 | 1.06 |
| Gilt & Fxd Int Inc | 28.78 | 29.93† | -0.03 | 5.69 |
| High Yield # | 148.30 | 155.28 | +2.49 | 3.76 |
| Income & Growth # | 220.82 | 231.22 | +4.61 | 2.70 |
| International | 347.95 | 364.35 | +6.80 | 0.26 |
| Japanese General | 153.35 | 160.58† | -0.83 | |
| Japan Tech | 67.01 | 70.17† | -1.68 | |
| Natl Resources | 60.18 | 62.02 | -1.60 | 1.29 |
| Portfolio | 102.68 | 107.51 | +1.77 | 2.13 |
| Special Sits | 265.96 | 278.49 | -0.81 | 0.58 |
| UK Emerging Cos | 137.49 | 143.97 | -0.85 | 1.16 |
| US Smaller Cos | 192.64 | 201.71 | -0.85 | |
| **HSBC UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD** | | | | |
| Advisers 0800 181 890 Investors 0800 289 505 | | | | |
| Active Funds - UK | | | | |
| Income # | 845.30 | 902.10† | +23.90 | 4.79 |
| UK Growth | 924.30 | 994.80 | +28.30 | 1.10 |
| High Income # | 151.50 | 161.70† | -3.50 | 5.55 |
| Active Funds - International | | | | |
| American Gwth | 822.20 | 868.90 | +12.50 | |
| European Gwth | 214.50 | 228.10† | +7.50 | |
| Japan Gwth | 230.00 | 244.30 | +7.60 | |
| Japan Smllr Cos | 20.41 | 21.78† | +0.56 | |
| Asian | 38.17 | 40.74† | +4.87 | 1.04 |
| Sing & Malay Gwth | 42.69 | 45.56 | +10.16 | |
| Hong Kong Gwth | 144.30 | 153.90 | +16.80 | 0.87 |
| Global Bond | 20.84 | 21.96† | -0.03 | 5.14 |
| Index Funds - UK | | | | |
| UK Index | 223.50 | 234.60† | +6.30 | 2.50 |
| Trade Index | 141.80 | 155.50 | -2.50 | 2.25 |
| THE FOOTSIE FUND | 91.86 | 92.32 | +2.74 | 1.82 |
| Index Funds - International | | | | |
| American Index | 405.50 | 407.50† | +2.60 | 0.47 |
| Eurotrack 100 | 265.60 | 266.90† | +6.10 | 0.69 |
| Japan Index | 55.17 | 55.45† | +1.13 | 0.33 |
| Tiger Index | 102.30 | 104.60 | +11.41 | 1.48 |
| **INVESCO FUND MANAGERS LTD** | | | | |
| 0171 626 3434 Dealing: 0800 010 733 | | | | |
| UK Specialist Trusts | | | | |
| UK Smaller Cos | 53.74 | 56.13† | -0.65 | 1.08 |
| General Funds | | | | |
| Managed Dist | 101.30 | 105.80 | +3.90 | 1.09 |
| Managed | 105.60 | 110.30 | +3.50 | 1.08 |
| Rupert Child Fnd | 144.00 | 150.30 | +4.30 | 1.32 |
| UK Growth | 90.39 | 94.40 | +2.63 | 1.43 |
| High Income Funds | | | | |
| UK Extra Inc # | 111.40 | 116.30† | +2.78 | 4.55 |
| Gilt & Fixed Int # | 29.25 | 30.22† | +0.06 | 7.13 |
| UK Inc & Gwth | 63.19 | 65.98 | +1.58 | 2.41 |
| UK Income # | 487.90 | 509.60 | -12.60 | 3.37 |
| Overseas Growth Funds | | | | |
| American Growth | 78.97 | 81.70 | +1.63 | |
| Amer Smlr Cos | 196.90 | 205.00 | +5.40 | |
| -do- Accum | 199.00 | 207.20 | -5.50 | |
| Europe Gth | 323.40 | 336.80 | +12.10 | |
| -do- Accum | 335.00 | 348.80 | +12.50 | |
| Euro Smaller Cos | 55.31 | 57.58 | +1.29 | |
| French Growth | 117.90 | 122.40† | +2.80 | 0.51 |
| -do- Accum | 127.60 | 132.50† | +3.00 | 0.51 |
| H Kong & China | 97.04 | 101.10† | +13.32 | 1.23 |
| Intl Growth | 79.62 | 82.84 | +2.27 | 0.47 |
| -do- Accum | 81.23 | 84.52 | +2.31 | 0.47 |
| Japan Gth | 21.37 | 22.27 | +0.50 | .. |
| -do- Accum | 21.37 | 22.27 | +0.50 | .. |
| Japan Smaller Cos | 20.90 | 21.81 | +0.46 | |
| Glob Emg Mkts | 86.90 | 90.76 | +4.14 | 0.04 |
| -do- Accum | 87.51 | 91.39 | +4.15 | 0.04 |
| SE Asia | 204.70 | 213.80 | +28.90 | 0.69 |
| Overseas Income Funds | | | | |
| Intl Bond # | 50.28 | 51.63 | -0.13 | 5.82 |
| **JOHNSON FRY UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD** | | | | |
| Enq 01277 227300 Dealing 01277 690448 | | | | |
| UK Income # | 145.40 | 153.90 | +4.50 | 2.65 |
| UK Growth | 151.30 | 160.10 | +4.70 | 1.32 |
| Euro Growth | 124.70 | 132.10 | +3.40 | 1.89 |
| Slater Gwth | 221.10 | 235.70 | +2.70 | 0.76 |
| New Japan | 66.10 | 70.21 | +1.57 | |
| **JUPITER UT MGRS LTD** | | | | |
| 0171 581 3020 | | | | |
| World Health | 177.30 | 188.50† | +0.40 | |
| Income # | 276.49 | 294.13† | +4.27 | 3.81 |
| UK Growth | 104.79 | 111.47† | +1.77 | 2.06 |
| Intl Growth | 100.99 | 107.42† | +2.73 | 0.41 |
| Ecology | 118.86 | 126.56 | +2.25 | 0.68 |
| European | 271.55 | 288.43† | +9.94 | 0.45 |
| Far Eastern | 265.10 | 281.90† | +11.00 | |
| UK Special Sits | 72.13 | 76.82 | +1.69 | 0.34 |
| Fd of Inv Tsts | 61.72 | 65.83† | +1.60 | 0.41 |
| High Income # | 63.86 | 67.47 | +0.99 | 4.49 |
| Financial Opps | 59.63 | 63.38† | +2.37 | |
| **LAURENCE KEEN UNIT TRUST MGMT** | | | | |
| 0171 556 8800 | | | | |
| Bridge Income | 395.40 | 420.64 | +3.40 | 4.23 |
| Far Growth | 125.16 | 133.15 | -7.77 | 0.91 |
| Inc & Growth | 92.21 | 98.10† | +1.74 | 3.17 |
| Smaller Cos | 112.80 | 120.00 | +1.30 | 1.36 |
| Ever Spec Sit Inc | 68.14 | 72.49 | +3.03 | 1.58 |
| Ever Spec Sit Acc | 72.12 | 76.72 | +2.15 | 1.58 |
| Pearson Growth | 59.57 | 63.37 | -0.27 | 2.02 |
| **LAZARD UNIT TST MGRS LTD** | | | | |
| 01277 690 432 | | | | |
| UK Cap | 579.45 | 614.96† | +16.70 | 1.42 |
| UK Inc Sm Cs # | 614.30 | 651.80† | +0.90 | 2.55 |
| UK Income # | 425.90 | 452.90† | +4.30 | 4.16 |
| UK Income Acc # | 433.00 | 461.50† | +6.60 | 4.08 |
| UK Sm Cos | 343.50 | 365.10 | -14.90 | 1.78 |
| Euro Gwth | 207.10 | 219.00 | +6.40 | 0.25 |
| Intl Fxd Gwth | 156.20 | 166.40 | +1.70 | |
| Pacific Growth | 6.51 | 6.91 | -0.84 | 0.29 |
| Eng Wld Gwth | 67.61 | 71.95 | -3.77 | |
| Japan Growth | 46.92 | 49.64 | +1.09 | |
| Enquiries 01277 642525 | | | | |
| Sm Port Inc | 84.80 | 89.70 | +2.35 | 0.59 |
| Gen Port Acc | 86.64 | 91.63 | +2.40 | 0.58 |
| Inc Port Inc | 32.23 | 34.24† | +2.49 | 3.21 |
| Inc Port Acc | 85.79 | 89.13† | +2.67 | 3.09 |
| Worldw Port | 64.58 | 68.29 | +1.34 | |
| **LEGAL & GENERAL (UT MGRS) LTD** | | | | |
| Enquiries 01222 448412 Dealing 01222 683512 | | | | |
| [illegible] | 786.70 | 796.70 | -21.20 | 1.84 |
| -do- Accum | 1653.00 | 1663.00 | +45.00 | 1.84 |
| Equity Income # | 130.00 | 130.00† | +2.90 | 4.33 |
| [illegible] | 90.54 | 90.54† | +2.42 | 5.78 |
| European | 194.60 | 194.60† | +6.50 | 0.05 |
| Far Eastern | 167.80 | 167.80 | -10.52 | |
| Fixed Interest | 59.73 | 59.74† | -0.32 | 7.15 |
| Gilt | 99.97 | 99.97† | -0.23 | 5.77 |
| Global Growth | 87.36 | 87.86 | -1.59 | 0.23 |
| Intl Bond | 48.71 | 48.71† | -1.02 | 5.03 |
| Japanese | 55.74 | 55.74† | -1.42 | |
| North American | 298.20 | 298.20† | +2.50 | 0.06 |
| Pacific Growth | 79.00 | 79.00 | +7.58 | 0.89 |
| Pacific Index | 32.54 | 32.54† | +3.02 | 3.07 |
| UK Index | 102.80 | 102.80† | +2.90 | 2.36 |
| UK Recovery | 140.50 | 140.50 | +0.80 | 1.37 |
| UK Smaller Cos | 191.80 | 191.80 | +2.35 | 1.67 |
| US Index | 117.60 | 117.60† | +1.50 | 0.65 |
| European Index | 125.80 | 125.80† | +3.90 | 0.84 |
| Japan Index | 29.27 | 29.27 | -0.76 | 0.34 |
| Worldwide | 117.80 | 117.80† | -3.20 | 1.21 |
| **LINCOLN UNIT TRUST MGRS** | | | | |
| 01452 371 500 Dealing 01452 371 623 | | | | |
| [illegible] | 74.03 | 79.22 | +2.23 | 1.94 |
| Income | 87.21 | 93.27† | +1.96 | 3.53 |
| Far East | 31.14 | 33.32 | -2.50 | |
| North American | 157.90 | 179.00† | +3.50 | |
| Global | 97.41 | 104.10† | +3.70 | 0.35 |
| European | 137.60 | 147.90 | +5.00 | 0.55 |
| Japan | 67.04 | 71.59 | +1.71 | |
| [illegible] | 56.90 | 60.30 | -0.05 | 4.90 |
| [illegible] | 60.22 | 64.49 | +7.51 | 0.67 |
| UK Cap Growth | 131.73 | 141.80 | -3.40 | 1.65 |
| Recovery Tst | 122.30 | 129.40 | -2.80 | 2.52 |
| [illegible] | 79.70 | 85.23 | +2.82 | 1.54 |
| [illegible] | 50.17 | 50.13† | +0.75 | 6.73 |
| **LLOYDS BANK UNIT TST MGRS LTD** | | | | |
| Helpdesk 01634 834 339 Dealing 01634 834 313 | | | | |
| Balanced | 543.00 | 584.10 | +17.21 | 1.70 |
| -do- Accum | 1335.00 | 1431.00 | +29.06 | 1.73 |
| [illegible] | 102.50 | 107.90 | +1.40 | 0.04 |
| -do- Accum | 111.00 | 116.90 | +1.90 | 0.04 |
| Extra Inc # | 382.60 | 408.10 | +7.70 | 3.08 |
| Extra Inc Acc # | 1104.00 | 1175.00 | +22.30 | 3.08 |
| FTSE 100 Inc | 171.40 | 182.40 | -4.60 | 1.82 |
| FTSE 100 Acc | 182.70 | 194.40 | -5.00 | 1.82 |
| [illegible] | 181.60 | 191.20 | -7.00 | 0.08 |
| -do- Accum | 190.50 | 200.60 | +7.50 | 0.05 |
| Growth | 933.10 | 995.30 | -19.40 | 0.19 |
| -do- Accum | 577.40 | 933.50 | +20.50 | 0.19 |
| High Interest Inc | 111.60 | 115.70 | -0.10 | 6.43 |
| High Interest Acc | 127.10 | 129.80 | | 6.43 |
| [illegible] # | 130.33 | 138.70 | +1.70 | 4.99 |
| [illegible] # | 150.50 | 160.20 | +2.00 | 4.88 |
| Income Inc # | 755.60 | 803.90 | -19.90 | 2.62 |
| Income Acc # | 2202.00 | 2364.00 | +58.00 | 2.62 |
| [illegible] | 713.20 | 758.30† | +17.70 | 3.52 |
| -do- Accum | 841.50 | 895.30 | +19.80 | 3.52 |
| Japan Growth | 79.34 | 84.61 | +0.74 | |
| -do- Accum | 79.62 | 84.71 | +0.74 | |
| Master Trust | 91.77 | 98.99 | +1.64 | 1.10 |
| -do- Accum | 96.96 | 102.20 | +2.00 | 1.10 |
| [illegible] | 126.53 | 134.10 | -5.60 | 1.77 |
| N American Gen | 329.50 | 351.00 | -2.60 | 0.30 |
| -do- Accum | 391.30 | 406.20 | -3.00 | 0.50 |
| [illegible] | 235.00 | 251.00 | +0.90 | |
| -do- Accum | 239.90 | 255.30 | +3.99 | |
| Pacific Basin | 182.80 | 173.20† | +7.40 | 0.83 |
| -do- Accum | 175.40 | 185.00 | +23.50 | 0.83 |
| [illegible] | 129.20 | 135.60 | -1.10 | 1.25 |
| [illegible] | 109.20 | | | |
| Small Cos Inc | 573.90 | 614.20 | +13.00 | 1.84 |
| -do- Accum | 536.90 | 848.40 | -12.90 | 1.84 |
| UK Eq Gth | 222.50 | 236.80 | +3.40 | 1.99 |
| UK Eq Inc # | 176.50 | 187.90 | -3.10 | 3.31 |
| US Growth | 141.60 | 150.90† | +3.50 | 1.33 |
| -do- Accum | 181.70 | 193.50 | +4.60 | 1.33 |
| Worldwide Gr | 402.20 | 443.20 | -7.80 | 0.33 |
| -do- Accum | 621.90 | 664.90 | +17.50 | 0.33 |
| **LONDON & MANCHESTER TST MGMT** | | | | |
| 01392 282 673 | | | | |
| General | 143.06 | 151.49 | -3.58 | 2.20 |
| Income | 57.78 | 60.37 | +2.35 | 2.80 |
| International | 82.51 | 88.53 | +2.34 | 0.30 |
| Tst of Inv Trusts | 89.00 | 94.42 | +2.07 | 1.00 |
| **M & G SECURITIES** | | | | |
| Cust Svcs/Unit Dlg 01245 390 390 | | | | |
| American | 658.90 | 695.30† | +18.20 | 0.51 |
| -do- Accum | 827.70 | 873.60† | +24.50 | 0.51 |
| Amer Recovery | 791.00 | 836.50 | +37.90 | 0.29 |
| -do- Accum | 914.80 | 967.50 | +32.20 | 0.29 |
| Amer Smlr Cos | 194.20 | 205.80† | +5.00 | .. |
| -do- Accum | 198.40 | 209.90† | +5.29 | .. |
| Australasian | 200.20 | 211.70 | -4.10 | 1.96 |
| -do- Accum | 256.10 | 270.80 | -5.30 | 1.96 |
| Blue Chip | 92.89 | 93.35† | +2.04 | 3.37 |
| -do- Accum | 287.00 | 288.50† | +6.25 | 3.37 |
| British Opps | 68.50 | 72.40 | +0.90 | 2.51 |
| -do- Accum | 247.00 | 261.90 | +3.30 | 2.51 |
| Capital | 1173.90 | 1241.40 | +25.80 | 2.42 |
| -do- Accum | 1436.50 | 1519.10 | +31.50 | 2.42 |
| Charifund # | 1024.00 | 1034.30† | +18.70 | 4.71 |
| -do- Accum # | 5690.20 | 5747.20† | +139.80 | 4.71 |
| Commodity | 350.10 | 370.20† | +1.20 | 1.03 |
| -do- Accum | 519.70 | 549.60† | +2.80 | 1.33 |
| Corporate Bond | 28.98 | 29.09† | -0.12 | 6.20 |
| Dividend # | 56.50 | 59.80 | +1.50 | 4.06 |
| -do- Accum # | 266.40 | 281.70 | +6.80 | 4.05 |
| Equity Income # | 394.10 | 416.80 | +6.70 | 4.77 |
| -do- Accum # | 571.10 | 604.00 | +9.60 | 4.77 |
| European | 833.50 | 881.40† | +25.70 | 0.41 |
| -do- Accum | 1075.80 | 1137.60† | +33.20 | 0.41 |
| Euro Dividend # | 104.60 | 110.60† | +2.60 | 3.16 |
| -do- Accum # | 138.30 | 146.10† | +3.40 | 3.16 |
| Euro Smlr Cos | 63.70 | 67.40 | +1.50 | 0.50 |
| -do- Accum | 63.90 | 67.60 | +1.60 | 0.50 |
| Extra Income | 807.80 | 842.70 | +15.70 | 4.43 |
| -do- Accum | 2143.20 | 2266.30 | +55.00 | 4.43 |
| Fund of Inv Tsts | 824.00 | 871.40 | +20.50 | 1.24 |
| -do- Accum | 1616.00 | 1709.00 | +40.20 | 1.24 |
| Gilt Income | 68.53 | 69.64 | -0.23 | 5.60 |
| -do- Accum | 225.47 | 225.83 | -0.73 | 5.60 |
| Gold | 40.30 | 42.60† | -0.40 | 0.43 |
| -do- Accum | 48.70 | 51.60† | -0.40 | 0.43 |
| High Interest | 25.06 | 25.06† | +0.03 | 7.37 |
| Income # | 42.70 | 45.20 | +1.00 | 4.03 |
| -do- Accum # | 193.10 | 204.40 | +4.40 | 4.03 |
| Intl Growth | 95.70 | 101.20† | +4.00 | 0.71 |
| -do- Accum | 170.50 | 180.30† | +7.10 | 0.71 |
| International Inc # | 133.10 | 140.80 | +2.80 | 3.95 |
| -do- Accum # | 221.00 | 233.90 | +4.80 | 3.95 |
| Japan | 26.00 | 27.40 | -0.80 | 0.04 |
| -do- Accum | 27.90 | 29.40 | -0.90 | 0.04 |
| Japan Smlr Cos | 88.50 | 94.60 | +1.70 | 0.01 |
| -do- Accum | 90.10 | 95.20 | +1.60 | 0.01 |
| Managed Gwth | 30.10 | 31.80 | +0.50 | 1.33 |
| Managed Income # | 36.30 | 38.10† | -0.60 | 4.01 |
| Pension Ex | 1403.90 | 1439.00 | +40.20 | 3.00 |
| Recovery | 58.20 | 61.50† | +1.30 | 2.47 |
| -do- Accum | 103.40 | 109.40† | +2.40 | 2.47 |
| Smaller Cos | 72.80 | 77.00 | +0.90 | 2.44 |
| -do- Accum | 154.90 | 163.80 | +1.90 | 2.44 |
| Sth East Asia | 262.70 | 277.80 | +32.20 | 1.83 |
| -do- Accum | 355.50 | 375.90 | +43.50 | 1.83 |
| Trustee | 54.30 | 57.40 | +1.30 | 4.93 |
| -do- Accum | 246.70 | 260.90 | +5.60 | 4.83 |
| UK Equity # | 86.90 | 91.90† | +1.80 | 3.74 |
| -do- Accum # | 248.40 | 262.90† | +5.30 | 3.74 |
| UK Growth | 1419.20 | 1500.60 | +40.90 | 1.70 |
| -do- Accum | 1605.20 | 1697.40 | +46.20 | 1.70 |
| **MGM UNIT MANAGERS LTD** | | | | |
| Dealing: 01277 261 010 Enq: 01903 204 631 | | | | |
| European Growth | 141.12 | 150.12 | +4.79 | 0.32 |
| Intl Bond | 61.66 | 64.77 | -0.49 | 3.48 |
| Intl Equity Growth | 100.69 | 108.89 | +3.41 | 0.46 |
| N Amer Growth | 184.04 | 195.24 | +0.76 | 0.48 |
| Special Sits Growth | 37.75 | 40.15 | +1.47 | 1.63 |
| UK Growth | 815.85 | 856.22 | +23.51 | 2.04 |
| -do- Accum | 869.80 | 925.31 | +33.28 | 2.04 |
| **M W JOINT INVESTORS LTD** | | | | |
| 01620 825867 | | | | |
| Balanced Fd # | 1506.00 | 1528.20 | +37.60 | 2.70 |
| Income # | 1226.20 | 1244.50† | +24.60 | 4.10 |
| **MALDON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD** | | | | |
| 0131 222 4242 | | | | |
| Maldon General | 201.80 | 208.50† | .. | 3.23 |
| **MANEK INVESTMENT MGMT LTD** | | | | |
| 0171 618 7070 | | | | |
| Growth Fd Acc | 103.00 | 109.90 | +2.30 | .. |
| **MARKS & SPENCER UNIT TRUST LTD** | | | | |
| 0800 363432 | | | | |
| High Income # | 105.90 | 108.88† | -0.30 | 6.04 |
| Investment Pflo | 218.20 | 225.00† | +4.90 | 1.96 |
| -do- Accum | 266.40 | 274.60† | +5.90 | 1.96 |
| UK Select Pflo | 210.80 | 217.30 | +6.10 | 1.72 |
| -do- Accum | 261.40 | 269.50 | +7.70 | 1.72 |
| UK 100 Cos | 165.90 | 165.90 | +5.60 | 1.74 |
| -do- Accum | 172.60 | 172.60 | +5.90 | 1.74 |
| **MARLBOROUGH FUND MGRS LTD** | | | | |
| 01204 364 842 | | | | |
| Managed Tst | 81.55 | 86.76 | -0.12 | 2.20 |
| **MARTIN CURRIE UNIT TRUSTS LTD** | | | | |
| 0131 479 4848 | | | | |
| Nth American | 117.30 | 124.50 | +1.70 | 0.24 |
| Far East | 139.00 | 146.50 | +4.30 | |
| Japan | 53.66 | 56.96 | +0.59 | |
| Emerging Mkts | 78.51 | 83.97† | +2.82 | 0.69 |
| Intl Growth | 145.20 | 154.10 | +3.10 | 0.51 |
| UK Growth | 151.30 | 161.30 | +2.70 | 1.69 |
| UK Smlr Co | 66.76 | 70.87 | +1.04 | 1.45 |
| Asia Pacific | 27.08 | 28.39 | +1.16 | 0.41 |
| Glob Gwth PEP | 75.82 | 80.48 | +2.04 | 0.60 |
| **MATHESON UNIT TRUSTS LTD** | | | | |
| 0161 831 7435 | | | | |
| Select Portfolio | 114.70 | 122.10 | +3.00 | |
| **MAYFLOWER MANAGEMENT CO LTD** | | | | |
| 0171 556 8800 | | | | |
| Income | 633.75 | 674.20 | +17.61 | 2.76 |
| Global Inc | 94.44 | 100.47 | +1.13 | 2.48 |
| Brit Leaders Inc | 487.05 | 518.14 | +14.63 | 1.54 |
| Intl Leaders | 292.69 | 311.37 | +5.94 | 0.90 |
| P&M Mg Bal Grth | 76.42 | 81.64 | +2.05 | 0.20 |
| **MERCURY FUND MANAGERS LTD** | | | | |
| Dealing: 0800 445522 | | | | |
| American | 374.20 | 394.60 | -8.70 | |
| -do- Accum | 400.20 | 422.10 | +7.30 | |
| American Opps | 153.40 | 162.90 | +5.10 | |
| -do- Accum | 155.30 | 165.00 | -5.30 | |
| Bal Port | 115.10 | 121.90 | +2.20 | 2.44 |
| -do- Accum | 144.90 | 153.60 | +2.90 | 2.44 |
| British Blue Chip | 131.00 | 138.80 | -3.30 | 2.38 |
| -do- Accum | 172.70 | 184.10 | -4.30 | 2.38 |
| Cash | 100.30 | 100.30 | +0.10 | 7.04 |
| -do- Accum | 158.10 | 158.10† | +0.20 | 7.04 |
| Emerging Mkts | 125.50 | 134.90 | -4.70 | 0.23 |
| -do- Accum | 127.30 | 136.90 | -4.90 | 0.23 |
| European Growth | 441.80 | 467.90 | +15.20 | 0.11 |
| -do- Accum | 482.20 | 510.70 | +16.50 | 0.11 |
| General | 756.90 | 803.60 | +18.90 | 2.00 |
| -do- Accum | 1579.00 | 1676.00 | +40.00 | 2.00 |
| Global Bond | 129.10 | 135.70 | -0.10 | 4.04 |
| -do- Accum | 179.60 | 188.70 | -0.10 | 4.04 |
| Gold & General | 130.18 | 139.50 | -1.30 | 0.49 |
| -do- Accum | 134.70 | 144.40 | -1.30 | 0.49 |
| Govt Securities | 102.10 | 105.20 | -0.30 | 4.86 |
| -do- Accum | 230.10 | 237.30 | -0.60 | 4.86 |
| High Yield Bd | 111.10 | 113.80 | -0.30 | 5.53 |
| -do- Accum | 126.10 | 129.20 | -0.30 | 5.53 |
| Income | 249.30 | 264.60† | +3.20 | 3.40 |
| -do- Accum | 436.70 | 462.90† | +11.10 | 3.40 |
| Inc Portfolio # | 134.50 | 142.30† | +2.40 | 4.59 |
| -do- Accum # | 155.50 | 164.60† | +2.80 | 4.59 |
| Intl Opps | 641.90 | 684.70 | +11.80 | 0.72 |
| -do- Accum | 875.30 | 933.70 | +16.80 | 0.72 |
| Japan | 144.30 | 153.90† | +2.60 | |
| -do- Accum | 148.10 | 158.00† | +2.80 | |
| New Europe | 295.30 | 315.00† | -3.40 | 0.83 |
| -do- Accum | 311.70 | 332.50† | +5.50 | 0.83 |
| Pacific | 72.49 | 77.30 | -7.78 | 0.28 |
| -do- Accum | 78.20 | 83.38 | +8.38 | 0.28 |
| Recovery | 565.00 | 602.70 | +10.70 | 1.54 |
| -do- Accum | 756.30 | 806.20 | +14.30 | 1.54 |
| UK Smaller Cos | 68.18 | 72.73 | -1.24 | 1.62 |
| -do- Accum | 79.63 | 85.15 | -1.47 | 1.62 |
| Marathon Grth | 145.10 | 151.60 | +3.50 | 1.67 |
| Managed Inc | 142.00 | 147.70 | +2.10 | 3.66 |
| For Metropolitan Unit Trust see Canada Life Mgmt | | | | |
| **MIDLAND UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD** | | | | |
| Enq 0345 456 123 Dlg: 0345 456 126 | | | | |
| Balanced | 83.18 | 87.10 | +2.14 | 2.27 |
| -do- Accum | 94.17 | 98.61 | +2.46 | 2.27 |
| British Tst | 146.30 | 153.27 | +5.13 | 1.70 |
| -do- Accum | 173.90 | 187.30 | +6.20 | 1.70 |
| Corp Bond Inc | 106.90 | 110.40† | -1.30 | 6.19 |
| -do- Accum | 117.90 | 122.20† | -0.10 | 6.19 |
| Extra High Inc # | 89.12 | 93.32† | -1.35 | 5.66 |
| -do- Accum # | 205.30 | 215.00† | +3.20 | 5.66 |
| FTSE 100 Acc | 100.40 | 105.18† | +3.10 | 0.71 |
| FTSE 100 Dist | 91.53 | 95.84† | +2.85 | 0.71 |
| Gilt & Fxd Int | 60.46 | 62.92 | -0.18 | 5.85 |
| -do- Accum | 203.50 | 213.90 | -0.70 | 5.85 |
| High Yield # | 306.40 | 320.80 | +5.50 | 4.87 |
| -do- Accum # | 902.30 | 944.80 | +17.50 | 4.87 |
| Household Homes | 127.83 | 128.40 | +3.80 | 1.10 |
| Income # | 424.50 | 444.50† | +5.50 | 3.70 |
| -do- Accum # | 1048 | 1097† | +29.00 | 3.70 |
| Money Market UT | 49.27 | 49.27† | -0.59 | 6.51 |
| -do- Accum | 88.55 | 88.55† | +0.10 | 6.51 |
| Monthly Income | 122.20 | 128.00† | +1.70 | 3.63 |
| Midland Personal Pension Unit Trust | | | | |
| British | 186.40 | 198.30 | +6.62 | 1.67 |
| European Growth | 189.83 | 200.13 | +8.00 | |
| Gilt & Fxd | 116.40 | 123.40 | -0.30 | 5.63 |
| Income | 143.60 | 152.80 | +4.00 | 3.54 |
| Japan Growth | 35.60 | 38.16 | -0.51 | |
| Managed | 182.70 | 193.30 | +3.20 | 2.19 |
| Money Market | 102.80 | 108.50 | +0.10 | 6.01 |
| North American | 145.90 | 154.70 | +4.10 | |
| Midland Executive Pension Unit Trust | | | | |
| British | 168.90 | 179.70 | +6.08 | 1.61 |
| European Growth | 177.10 | 187.70 | +5.63 | |
| Gilt & Fixed Int | 103.20 | 114.70 | -0.30 | 5.74 |
| Income | 140.60 | 149.60 | +4.00 | 3.38 |
| Japan Growth | 36.04 | 38.21 | +0.51 | |
| Managed | 93.70 | 105.00 | +2.60 | 2.18 |
| Money Market | 94.86 | 100.50 | | 5.01 |
| North American | 130.70 | 138.50 | +3.60 | |
| Midland Executive Pension Unit Trust | | | | |
| British | 167.60 | 178.10 | +5.90 | 1.67 |
| European Growth | 113.20 | 123.62 | +3.40 | |
| Gilt & Fixed Int | 96.80 | 102.60 | -0.20 | 5.78 |
| Income | 134.70 | 145.40 | +3.80 | 3.39 |
| Japan Growth | 36.92 | 39.14 | +0.82 | |
| Managed | 101.70 | 108.20 | +3.30 | 2.18 |
| Money Market | 85.35 | 90.36 | +0.10 | 5.05 |
| North American | 146.00 | 154.80 | +4.00 | .. |
| **MORGAN GRENFELL INVEST FDS LTD** | | | | |
| Dealers: 0171 588 7474 Enquiries: 0171 588 7171 | | | | |
| American Gwth | 618.80 | 655.10† | +15.40 | |
| European Gth Inc | 677.10 | 718.80 | +15.60 | |
| -do- Accum | 684.50 | 726.10 | +15.90 | |
| Intl Gwth | 278.60 | 294.80† | +6.30 | |
| UK Equity Inc | 290.20 | 307.90 | +11.70 | 3.32 |
| Do. Accum | 410.70 | 435.80 | +16.60 | 3.32 |
| UK Growth Inc | 168.30 | 180.30† | +3.20 | 2.64 |
| -do- Accum | 176.20 | 188.70† | +4.40 | 2.64 |
| Ukind Trckr Inc | 257.80 | 274.60† | +5.40 | 2.37 |
| -do- Accum | 329.20 | 350.60† | +10.20 | 2.37 |
| US Eq Ind Trk Inc | 390.20 | 412.60 | +6.10 | 0.85 |
| Japan Tracker | 50.10 | 52.94 | +1.23 | |
| Asian Tracker | 139.10 | 150.30 | +19.20 | 0.43 |
| Mngd Ptflo Inc | 226.30 | 240.70 | +6.00 | 1.49 |
| Mngd Ptflo Acc | 252.70 | 268.80 | +6.70 | 1.49 |
| Deposit Inc | 100.37 | 100.37† | +0.09 | 7.08 |
| Europa | 272.20 | 291.00† | +10.20 | |
| Genesis | 282.20 | 283.00 | +3.30 | 2.20 |
| High Income | 21.66 | 22.99† | +0.39 | 10.00 |
| Japan Growth | 78.14 | 83.00† | +1.82 | |
| **MURRAY JOHNSTONE UT MGMT** | | | | |
| 0345 090 033 | | | | |
| Acumen | 127.80 | 130.80 | +1.40 | 1.99 |
| Acumen Inc | 114.00 | 116.60 | +1.20 | 1.99 |
| Acumen Reserve | 111.60 | 112.80† | -0.10 | 6.13 |
| -do- Inc | 80.53 | 82.30† | -0.07 | 6.13 |
| American Growth | 79.33 | 82.18† | +1.01 | |
| Equity Income # | 137.20 | 140.80 | +3.40 | 3.61 |
| European | 105.00 | 108.00 | +2.00 | |
| Smaller Cos | 96.67 | 102.80 | +1.80 | 1.71 |
| World Eqty | 89.65 | 93.20† | +2.09 | |
| Global Bond | 41.86 | 42.30† | -0.06 | 4.27 |
| UK Growth | 140.80 | 144.60 | +2.50 | 1.21 |
| Pacific Growth | 72.10 | 73.85 | +6.95 | 2.30 |
| Japan Growth | 86.22 | 87.66 | +1.87 | |
| **NFU MUTUAL UNIT MGRS LTD** | | | | |
| Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 261 010 | | | | |
| Avon Equity | 202.81 | 215.78† | +7.00 | 1.67 |
| **NPI INVESTMENT MGRS** | | | | |
| 0171 623 4200 | | | | |
| American Dist | 161.10 | 169.60 | +1.50 | 0.01 |
| European Dist | 201.20 | 211.90 | +6.50 | 0.18 |
| Far East Dist | 131.10 | 138.00† | +9.38 | 0.05 |
| Global Cap Dist | 106.90 | 112.50 | +2.20 | 0.27 |
| Occns Dist | 1169.40 | 1230.90 | +46.70 | 0.18 |
| -do- Accum | 1521.30 | 1601.50 | +60.80 | 0.18 |
| UK Dist | 587.70 | 597.60 | +17.20 | 1.48 |
| -do- Accum | 1181.60 | 1243.80 | +35.50 | 1.48 |
| UK Extra Inc Dis | 115.80 | 121.90† | +1.60 | 3 |
| Wwide Dist | 129.70 | 136.50 | +4.70 | 0.33 |
| Wwde Inc Dist | 104.20 | 109.70 | +3.80 | 1.63 |
| **NATWEST UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD** | | | | |
| Dlg: 0870 601 6147 Admin Enq: 0870 603 0188 | | | | |
| Europe Inc | 104.54 | 110.33 | +2.29 | 0.24 |
| Fund of Funds Inc | 88.88 | 85.36† | +1.76 | 0.93 |
| North America Inc | 85.99 | 90.75 | +1.54 | |
| UK Equity Gth Inc | 93.80 | 98.15 | +1.73 | 1.22 |
| -do- Accum | 103.16 | 108.86 | +1.91 | 1.22 |
| UK General Inc | 86.36 | 91.15 | +2.35 | 1.31 |
| -do- Accum | 98.00 | 103.43 | +2.65 | 1.31 |
| UK Gilt/Fix Int Inc | 50.11 | 52.77† | -0.07 | 5.78 |
| UK Income Inc | 85.55 | 90.29† | +1.18 | 2.10 |
| UK Smlr Cos Inc | 141.36 | 149.19 | +2.74 | 1.07 |
| **NEWTON FUND MGRS LTD** | | | | |
| Enquiries: 0800 614 330 Dealing: 0500 440 000 | | | | |
| American | 68.22 | 72.57 | +1.33 | |
| -do- Accum | 68.75 | 73.13 | +1.34 | |
| Bond | 134.92 | 143.53 | -1.03 | 4.62 |
| Cash Income | 50.72 | 50.72 | +0.05 | 6.66 |
| -do- Accum | 73.56 | 73.56 | +0.07 | 6.66 |
| Challenger | 98.15 | 99.15 | +2.20 | |
| Distributor | 137.16 | 145.91 | +3.51 | 1.76 |
| European | 84.07 | 88.43 | +3.36 | |
| Foundation | 137.02 | 145.76 | +3.00 | 0.88 |
| General Inc | 275.83 | 293.43 | +7.96 | 0.95 |
| General Acc | 282.59 | 300.62† | +8.17 | 0.95 |
| Growth Inc | 179.16 | 190.61 | +5.14 | 0.93 |
| Growth Acc | 187.37 | 199.32 | +5.37 | 0.93 |
| Higher Income Inc | 44.77 | 47.82 | -0.17 | 3.81 |
| -do- Accum | 56.77 | 60.39 | +0.23 | 3.81 |
| High Yield Bond # | 99.25 | 103.69† | -0.50 | 7.38 |
| Income | 372.10 | 395.85† | +11.59 | 2.34 |
| Intrepid | 179.55 | 187.03 | +3.95 | 0.90 |
| Intl Gwth | 46.27 | 49.22 | +1.41 | |
| Japan | 24.94 | 26.53 | +0.08 | |
| Oriental Inc | 112.55 | 119.73 | -7.84 | 0.28 |
| -do- Accum | 116.69 | 124.13 | -8.13 | 0.28 |
| **NORTHERN ROCK UNIT TRUST LTD** | | | | |
| 0191 285 2555 | | | | |
| High Income # | 59.25 | 62.70† | +0.83 | 5.19 |
| UK Growth | 142.80 | 151.10† | +3.90 | 2.38 |
| **NORWICH UNION TST MANAGERS** | | | | |
| 01603 682 234 | | | | |
| Master Trust | 165.13 | 173.82 | +3.95 | 1.06 |
| UK Equity | 222.33 | 234.03 | +5.56 | 2.20 |
| UK Equity Income # | 195.59 | 205.89 | +4.01 | 4.47 |
| UK Smaller Cos | 171.40 | 180.42 | +2.37 | 1.27 |
| UK Equity Growth | 189.51 | 199.48 | +6.84 | 0.86 |
| UK Index Trckg | 227.42 | 240.02 | +6.68 | 1.97 |
| Intl Index Trckg | 202.17 | 213.37 | +4.48 | 0.59 |
| International | 319.04 | 335.83 | +8.15 | 1.06 |
| European | 342.40 | 360.42 | +8.43 | 0.01 |
| Pan European | 222.02 | 233.71 | +5.04 | 0.79 |
| Nth American | 319.32 | 336.13 | +3.83 | 0.10 |
| N Amer Smlr Cos | 349.83 | 368.24 | +6.27 | |
| Japanese | 71.14 | 74.88 | +1.26 | 0.11 |
| Pacific | 164.61 | 173.27 | -9.47 | 1.69 |
| South East Asian | 172.11 | 181.17 | -14.99 | 1.81 |
| Sterling Bond | 109.64 | 115.41 | -0.50 | 5.89 |
| Intl Bond | 123.53 | 130.03 | +0.02 | 4.83 |
| Gilt & Convertible | 118.83 | 125.19 | -0.46 | 5.97 |
| Property | 94.33 | 99.29 | +0.10 | 5.20 |
| **OLD MUTUAL FUND MGRS LTD** | | | | |
| 01256 768 888 | | | | |
| European Inc | 470.00 | 503.30 | +9.70 | 0.24 |
| -do- Accum | 499.50 | 534.90 | +10.30 | 0.24 |
| Japan Inc | 79.07 | 83.74 | +2.38 | |
| Nth American Inc | 207.60 | 219.50 | +4.40 | |
| Worldwide Inc | 221.40 | 235.00 | +5.60 | 0.04 |
| HK & China Inc | 144.20 | 154.40 | +15.00 | 1.26 |
| Swiss Equities Inc | 130.40 | 138.70 | +5.40 | |
| Wwide Bond Inc | 68.69 | 72.80 | -0.09 | 4.44 |
| Emerging Asia Inc | 119.40 | 128.20 | +11.40 | 2.11 |
| -do- Accum | 120.30 | 129.20 | +11.50 | 2.11 |
| UK Mkt Inc | 50.84 | 50.84† | -0.62 | 6.86 |
| Thailand Inc | 48.31 | 53.57 | +6.75 | 1.85 |
| New Zealand Inc | 80.41 | 88.67 | | 1.94 |
| Intl Mngd PEP Inc | 92.37 | 98.70 | +3.45 | 0.48 |
| Latin Amr Cmp Inc | 77.30 | 82.77 | +2.55 | 0.89 |
| UK All Sh Idx Inc | 94.49 | 95.60 | +2.70 | 1.77 |
| Broker Unit Trusts | | | | |
| Wwy Global Blue | 93.25 | 98.20 | +1.62 | 0.90 |
| Global Portfolio | 80.30 | 85.88 | +1.56 | |
| Wwy Global Red | 70.61 | 75.12 | +1.34 | 0.56 |
| Marsh Global Grth | 67.93 | 72.04 | +1.45 | 0.21 |
| AMR Brit Grth Inc | 144.40 | 154.40 | +5.90 | 0.50 |
| Temple Equity Inc | 58.63 | 61.60† | +1.43 | 1.22 |
| Hartley Growth | 159.60 | 170.00 | +5.10 | 0.79 |
| Intl Growth Inc | 73.63 | 78.96 | | |
| IPS Portfolio Inc | 112.00 | 118.60 | +1.20 | |
| Roxburgh Strat Gth | 77.19 | 82.56 | .. | 0.17 |
| UFC Growth | 75.56 | 80.81 | +1.13 | 1.14 |
| Chartfield Port of Fds | 58.04 | 59.48 | +0.70 | 0.55 |
| Pay Intl Equity | 87.24 | 93.39 | +1.24 | 0.11 |
| **PEARL UNIT TRUSTS LTD** | | | | |
| Dlg: 0800 626 577 Enq: 01733 470 470 | | | | |
| Equity | 375.50 | 399.40 | +9.00 | 1.27 |
| -do- Accum | 848.50 | 909.50 | +20.40 | 1.27 |
| Growth | 243.70 | 256.50 | +5.60 | 1.63 |
| Income | 352.10 | 374.50 | +3.20 | 3.01 |
| Intl Equity | 323.00 | 343.50 | +8.50 | 0.34 |
| -do- Accum | 362.70 | 385.60 | +10.70 | 0.34 |
| Equity Income # | 94.87 | 100.90† | +0.90 | 4.25 |
| Equity Growth | 127.70 | 135.80 | +3.10 | 1.09 |
| New Europe | 137.80 | 146.60 | +3.80 | |
| **PERPETUAL UNIT TST MGMT** | | | | |
| 01491 417 000 | | | | |
| Intl Growth Inc | 835.18 | 891.96 | +31.15 | 0.37 |
| -do- Accum | 843.81 | 901.19 | +31.48 | 0.37 |
| Income # | 627.20 | 670.61 | +22.50 | 3.27 |
| Wwide Recovery | 545.52 | 579.83 | +21.34 | 0.37 |
| Amer Growth Inc | 385.48 | 408.31† | +9.21 | 0.01 |
| -do- Accum | 385.48 | 408.31 | +9.21 | 0.01 |
| Intl Emerging Cos | 316.26 | 338.25 | +9.28 | 0.13 |
| Far Estn Grth Inc | 239.87 | 258.55 | +9.68 | 1.40 |
| -do- Accum | 244.20 | 261.72 | +9.89 | 1.40 |
| Euro Grth Inc | 264.43 | 282.15 | +3.96 | 0.01 |
| -do- Accum | 265.35 | 283.13 | +10.00 | 0.01 |
| UK Growth Inc | 153.88 | 164.58 | +4.53 | 2.10 |
| -do- Accum | 169.14 | 180.90 | +4.98 | 2.18 |
| High Income # | 162.34 | 173.58† | +5.89 | 3.88 |
| Jap Grth Inc | 145.95 | 156.03 | +4.21 | 0.01 |
| -do- Accum | 145.95 | 156.03 | +4.21 | 0.01 |
| PEP Bond | 65.81 | 68.77 | +0.03 | 6.48 |
| PEP Growth | 182.15 | 194.53 | +6.32 | 0.46 |
| Asian Str Mkts Inc | 89.97 | 95.16† | +8.49 | 0.77 |
| -do- Accum | 89.93 | 96.17 | +8.56 | 0.77 |
| Amer Smlr Co Inc | 248.19 | 264.28 | +6.26 | 0.01 |
| -do- Accum | 248.19 | 264.28 | +6.26 | 0.01 |
| Global Bond | 54.38 | 57.66 | -0.08 | 4.06 |
| UK Smaller Cos Inc | 131.51 | 139.56 | +1.83 | 2.01 |
| -do- Accum | 131.61 | 140.76 | +1.98 | 2.01 |
| Lat Am Grth Inc | 38.48 | 41.16 | +1.29 | 0.17 |
| -do- Accum | 39.10 | 41.82 | +1.31 | 0.11 |
| World Inc PEP # | 51.75 | 54.77 | +1.29 | 3.50 |
| **PILGRIM UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD** | | | | |
| 0191 201 3927 | | | | |
| American | 169.62 | 180.52 | +4.63 | |
| European | 125.28 | 133.26† | +2.98 | |
| Global | 55.48 | 59.02 | +2.90 | |
| Pacific | 41.42 | 43.90 | +2.47 | |
| UK Inc & Gth | 102.54 | 109.09 | +3.04 | 1.24 |
| **PORTFOLIO FUND MGMT LTD** | | | | |
| Enq 0171 638 0808 Dlg 0171 588 6690 | | | | |
| Asia | 40.84 | 43.34 | +3.29 | |
| Emerg Mkts | 43.96 | 46.66† | +0.85 | 0.34 |
| Euro Fund | 54.25 | 57.56† | +1.83 | .. |
| Fund of Funds | 225.14 | 236.90 | +5.65 | 0.03 |
| High Income # | 62.95 | 66.31† | +0.67 | 5.38 |
| Performance | 55.29 | 58.66 | +1.77 | |
| **PREMIER PORTFOLIO MGRS LTD** | | | | |
| 01483 456 832 | | | | |
| Special Sits | 238.20 | 254.80 | +4.50 | 0.37 |
| Dividend | 138.88 | 148.60† | +2.30 | 3.35 |
| Intl Gth & Inc | 294.00 | 312.90† | +5.70 | 0.58 |
| UK & Gen | 64.32 | 68.78 | +1.55 | 0.58 |
| Fund of Funds | 84.29 | 90.15 | +2.00 | |
| **PRINCIPAL UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD** | | | | |
| 01732 740 700 | | | | |
| Principal Tst | 209.42 | 217.34† | +2.98 | 2.39 |
| For Pacific UT see Aberdeen Prolific UT | | | | |
| **PRUDENTIAL UNIT TRUSTS LTD** | | | | |
| UT Dealing: 0345 405000 Client Enq: 0345 835500 | | | | |
| Managed Tst | 51.68 | 53.55 | +1.52 | 1.87 |
| Cash Haven Inc | 100.84 | 101.83 | +1.13 | 6.31 |
| Cash Haven Acc | 126.06 | 126.69 | +0.17 | 6.31 |
| Ded Trust Inc | 123.11 | 127.58† | +2.56 | 4.48 |
| Ded Trust Acc | 147.49 | 152.84 | +4.97 | 4.48 |
| Global Growth | 124.62 | 132.57† | +3.83 | 1.44 |
| Equity Inc | 110.72 | 117.26 | +3.17 | 3.61 |
| Equity | 1146.50 | 1219.60 | +32.03 | 1.55 |
| European | 374.16 | 397.73 | +11.32 | 0.18 |
| High Income | 110.93 | 118.01† | +2.07 | 4.33 |
| Intl Gth | 244.34 | 259.94† | +7.57 | 0.03 |
| Intl Sm Co | 102.67 | 109.22 | +3.04 | 0.86 |
| Japanese | 131.01 | 139.78 | -4.67 | |
| Mgd Income Tst # | 51.22 | 52.94† | +0.17 | 7.36 |
| Nth Amer | 319.51 | 339.54 | +6.13 | 0.86 |
| Pacific Mkts | 84.04 | 87.09† | -5.80 | 1.84 |
| Premier Inc | 98.67 | 102.74† | -0.13 | 5.50 |
| Sm Cos | 121.27 | 129.01 | +1.26 | 1.58 |
| Spec Sits | 156.23 | 166.20† | +4.54 | 1.61 |
| UK Growth | 194.28 | 206.68 | +5.37 | 1.54 |
| **QUILTER FUND MANAGEMENT LTD** | | | | |
| 0171 556 8800 | | | | |
| Hi Inc Inv Inc | 104.70 | 110.09 | +2.09 | 3.22 |
| Investment Trust | 129.70 | 136.38 | +3.31 | 0.36 |
| UK Smaller Cos | 121.65 | 127.93† | -0.80 | 1.95 |
| **RELIANCE UNIT MGRS LTD** | | | | |
| 01892 510 033 | | | | |
| British Life | 458.90 | 488.80 | +14.10 | 1.83 |
| **ROTHSCHILD FUND MANAGEMENT** | | | | |
| Dealers. 0171 623 1000 Client Services: 0800 124 314 | | | | |
| Five Arrows Portfolio Fund | | | | |
| Asia Pacific | 35.60 | 37.85 | +3.52 | |
| Cash | 48.36 | 50.37 | +0.04 | 5.42 |
| Emerging Mkts | 42.34 | 45.25 | +2.08 | |
| Europe | 80.25 | 85.86 | +1.80 | |
| Global Fixed Int # | 49.83 | 52.04 | +0.09 | 4.16 |
| Japan | 31.21 | 32.84 | +0.19 | |
| North America | 88.48 | 92.93 | +2.49 | |
| UK | 86.64 | 90.48 | +2.78 | 0.86 |
| UK Equity Inc # | 79.90 | 83.23 | +2.79 | 3.11 |
| UK Fixed Int # | 54.93 | 57.38 | +0.04 | 8.42 |
| Portfolio Service PEP | | | | |
| Pep Gth Port | 62.42 | 64.68 | +1.76 | .. |
| Pep Inc Port # | 64.21 | 66.53 | +1.91 | 2.72 |
| Five Arrows Global Investment Funds | | | | |
| A Shares | | | | |
| Asian Opps ‡ | 38.34 | | +4.00 | |
| Asia Pacific ‡ | 35.60 | | +3.02 | 1.38 |
| Europe ‡ | 50.73 | | +1.30 | |
| Japan ‡ | 43.54 | | +0.73 | |
| Latin America ‡ | 38.74 | | +0.89 | |
| North America ‡ | 50.88 | | +0.21 | |
| UK Eq Income # | 54.48 | | +1.29 | 3.52 |
| UK Major Cos ‡ | 54.23 | | +1.44 | 0.90 |
| UK Smaller Cos ‡ | 57.05 | | +0.19 | 0.98 |
| **ROYAL & SUN ALLIANCE UT MGMT LTD** | | | | |
| Enq: 0870 601 6183 Dealing: 0870 601 6083 | | | | |
| Royal & Sun Alliance Trusts | | | | |
| Equity | 1486.00 | 1572.00† | +49.00 | 1.39 |
| Equity Income # | 150.70 | 159.40 | +3.69 | 3.75 |
| European | 236.60 | 250.20 | +7.10 | |
| High Inc Bond | 51.78 | 51.84 | -0.54 | 5.71 |
| Portfolio | 141.30 | 149.50 | +3.90 | 1.00 |
| UK Index Trckg | 265.10 | 281.50 | +7.60 | 2.08 |
| UK Leading Cos | 113.60 | 120.20† | +3.60 | 1.76 |
| UK Smaller Cos | 147.70 | 156.20 | +3.30 | 1.12 |
| Royal Life Trusts | | | | |
| High Inc Dist | 222.30 | 236.40 | +5.70 | 2.77 |
| Intl Cautionary | 70.42 | 74.86 | +0.72 | 4.10 |
| Intl Growth | 93.54 | 99.98† | +1.94 | .. |
| Intl Spec | 83.61 | 88.54 | +1.98 | |
| Managed | 228.40 | 243.40† | +6.40 | 0.80 |
| Pacific Basin | 63.31 | 67.59 | +3.71 | 0.57 |
| United States | 177.20 | 187.50 | +1.60 | 0.28 |
| Sun Alliance Trusts | | | | |
| European | 199.80 | 213.60 | +6.90 | |
| Far East | 132.60 | 140.30† | +7.70 | |
| North America | 259.60 | 277.90 | +1.60 | |
| Worldwide Bond | 55.76 | 58.60 | -0.12 | 4.47 |
| **ROYAL LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD** | | | | |
| 01206 784 400 | | | | |
| American Growth | 260.10 | 275.90† | +2.90 | 0.98 |
| European Growth | 216.30 | 229.90 | +5.00 | 0.97 |
| Far East Growth | 99.92 | 106.30† | +9.37 | 2.83 |
| Japan Growth | 91.13 | 96.80 | -0.69 | 0.59 |
| Special Sits | 255.70 | 272.00 | +0.70 | 1.96 |
| UK Growth | 137.50 | 146.20 | +3.60 | 2.29 |
| Intl Growth | 336.90 | 358.50 | +8.30 | 1.72 |
| **ST JAMES'S PLACE UT GROUP LTD** | | | | |
| 0141 307 6500 | | | | |
| Far East Inc | 120.60 | 127.60† | +9.70 | 1.07 |
| Gtr Euro Prog Inc | 578.00 | 611.60† | +13.90 | 1.20 |
| -do- Accum | 913.40 | 966.60† | +22.00 | 1.20 |
| Growth Inc | 189.10 | 200.10 | +4.40 | 1.07 |
| -do- Accum | 194.70 | 206.00 | +4.50 | 1.07 |
| International Inc | 502.90 | 532.20 | +10.50 | 1.46 |
| -do- Accum | 697.80 | 738.40 | +14.60 | 1.46 |
| Nth Am & Intl Inc | 519.70 | 549.90 | +10.60 | 1.39 |
| UK Gen Prog Inc | 326.70 | 345.70† | +5.90 | 1.59 |
| -do- Accum | 384.40 | 406.80† | +7.00 | 1.59 |
| UK High Inc Inc | 192.20 | 201.30† | +1.40 | 2.80 |
| **SANWA INTL INVEST SERVICES LTD** | | | | |
| 0171 330 0572 | | | | |
| Asian Gwth | 64.82 | 68.70 | .. | 0.75 |
| European Gwth | 126.97 | 134.43 | +4.86 | 1.00 |
| Global Bd | 61.13 | 64.58 | +0.01 | 5.00 |
| Japan | 43.36 | 45.74 | | |
| UK Gwth | 112.80 | 120.00 | +3.03 | 1.75 |
| **SAVE & PROSPER GROUP** | | | | |
| Clients: 0800 829 100 Brokerline: 0800 727 770 | | | | |
| Amer Smlr Cos | 182.50 | 194.20† | +1.70 | .. |
| Cash | 144.40 | 144.40 | +0.10 | 6.77 |
| China Dragon | 58.95 | 62.66 | +7.72 | 0.40 |
| Commodity | 111.40 | 118.50 | -3.40 | |
| Emerging Mkts | 37.20 | 39.67 | +1.74 | 0.50 |
| European Gwth | 322.20 | 342.60 | +8.50 | |
| Euro Smlr Cos | 83.38 | 88.79 | +1.89 | |
| Extra Income # | 70.01 | 72.55† | +0.24 | 4.82 |
| Far Eastern | 75.24 | 80.04 | +3.19 | |
| FE Sm Cos | 36.35 | 38.67 | +0.73 | 0.88 |
| Financial Secs | 462.90 | 492.40 | +10.30 | 1.12 |
| Gold & Exploration | 39.77 | 42.51† | -0.78 | |
| Growth | 579.20 | 582.10† | +13.30 | 1.33 |
| High Income | 53.57 | 53.57† | -0.74 | 5.90 |
| Intl Bond | 160.40 | 169.50 | +0.50 | 4.98 |
| ITU | 273.70 | 291.20 | +5.00 | 0.95 |
| Japan Growth | 124.50 | 132.10 | +1.00 | |
| Japan Smaller | 105.70 | 112.20 | +0.80 | |
| Korea | 19.86 | 21.23 | -0.87 | |
| Latin America | 47.74 | 50.79 | +1.87 | 0.07 |
| Masterfund | 76.88 | 77.27 | -0.71 | 0.07 |
| Premier Eq Gwth | 228.80 | 243.40 | +6.90 | 1.08 |
| Premier Eq Inc # | 482.60 | 513.40 | +11.70 | 3.51 |
| SE Asia | 32.40 | 34.47 | +2.17 | 0.07 |
| Southern Africa | 48.17 | 51.24 | -0.33 | 1.07 |
| UK & O'seas | 241.60 | 257.20 | +5.30 | 0.85 |
| UK Eqty Gth | 113.30 | 120.50 | +2.90 | 0.56 |
| UK Eqty Inc # | 342.60 | 364.50† | +3.70 | 3.57 |
| UK Grth & Inc # | 404.50 | 430.30† | +7.10 | 2.38 |
| UK Sm Cos | 69.11 | 73.52† | -0.94 | 0.87 |
| US Growth | 298.20 | 317.10 | +1.30 | |
| New Europe ‡ | 51.28 | | +2.98 | |
| **SCHRODER UNIT TRUSTS LTD** | | | | |
| Clnt: 0800 526 535 Brkr: 0800 526 540 | | | | |
| Retail Funds | | | | |
| American | 460.41 | 486.67 | +10.81 | 0.43 |
| -do- Accum | 512.66 | 541.92 | +12.03 | 0.43 |
| European Gwth | 121.47 | 128.66 | +3.91 | 0.34 |
| Euro Smlr Cos | 130.56 | 138.59 | +2.95 | 0.02 |
| -do- Accum | 132.44 | 140.57 | +2.98 | 0.02 |
| Far Eastern Gth | 86.33 | 92.08† | +5.18 | 0.25 |
| -do- Accum | 88.12 | 93.99† | +5.29 | 0.25 |
| Gilt & Fixed Int # | 58.16 | 61.27 | -0.18 | 6.97 |
| Global Bond # | 45.54 | 47.05† | +0.29 | 5.98 |
| -do- Accum # | 58.38 | 60.28† | -0.37 | 5.98 |
| Global Emer Mkts | 47.15 | 50.29† | +2.97 | 0.01 |
| -do- Accum | 47.20 | 50.33 | +2.97 | 0.01 |
| Income # | 539.83 | 575.81 | +11.17 | 4.11 |
| -do- Accum # | 1901.49 | 2028.25 | +39.32 | 4.11 |
| Japan Smll Cos | 229.07 | 244.34† | +3.47 | |
| -do- Accum | 229.53 | 244.83† | +3.49 | |
| Japan Enterprise | 50.82 | 54.20 | +0.53 | |
| Pacific Gwth | 101.40 | 108.15† | +14.15 | 0.90 |
| -do- Accum | 106.17 | 113.23† | +15.53 | 0.90 |
| Portfolio | 112.56 | 119.86† | +3.14 | 1.82 |
| -do- Accum | 127.79 | 136.07† | +4.16 | 1.82 |
| Seoul | 17.24 | 18.92 | -0.30 | |
| -do- Accum | 17.74 | 18.92 | -0.30 | |
| Strategic Inc | 117.69 | 125.38† | +2.39 | 2.85 |
| Strategic Acc | 121.44 | 129.39† | +3.26 | 2.85 |
| Tokyo | 107.89 | 115.08 | +0.32 | |
| -do- Accum | 108.90 | 116.24 | +0.32 | |
| UK Enterprise | 418.25 | 446.13† | +12.39 | 2.04 |
| -do- Accum | 532.48 | 569.03† | +14.76 | 2.04 |
| UK Equity | 392.96 | 419.15† | +14.78 | 2.04 |
| -do- Accum | 817.81 | 872.34† | +29.98 | 2.04 |
| UK Smaller Cos | 413.16 | 440.72 | +4.03 | 0.87 |
| -do- Accum | 498.33 | 529.42 | +4.84 | 0.87 |
| US Smlr Cos | 340.86 | 362.59 | +10.06 | |
| -do- Accum | 340.89 | 362.59 | +10.06 | |
| Institutional Funds | | | | |
| European | 381.18 | 405.17† | +11.80 | 0.87 |
| -do- Accum | 447.66 | 463.69† | +13.61 | 0.87 |
| Euro Smlr Cos | 40.06 | 43.75 | +1.15 | 0.91 |
| -do- Accum | 46.00 | 47.62 | +1.25 | 0.91 |
| Global Equity Inc | 107.34 | 111.42 | +2.25 | 0.77 |
| Japan Smlr Cos | 22.47 | 23.40† | +0.20 | 0.21 |
| -do- Accum | 22.73 | 23.67† | +0.21 | 0.21 |
| Mngd Balanced | 261.90 | 272.81 | +6.82 | 3.13 |
| -do- Accum | 315.36 | 328.49 | +8.21 | 3.13 |
| Overseas Equity | 230.13 | 239.32† | +8.45 | 0.65 |
| -do- Accum | 244.53 | 254.29† | +8.98 | 0.80 |
| Overs Smlr Cos | 129.21 | 134.59 | +3.38 | 0.75 |
| -do- Accum | 137.77 | 143.50 | +3.60 | 0.75 |
| Pacific | 174.44 | 181.70 | +20.27 | 2.41 |
| -do- Accum | 197.47 | 205.69 | +22.94 | 2.41 |
| Recovery | 2842.45 | 2980.88† | +72.56 | 2.74 |
| -do- Accum | 3248.50 | 3383.85† | +82.93 | 2.74 |
| UK Index | 247.96 | 258.31 | +7.78 | 2.57 |
| -do- Accum | 331.07 | 344.86 | +10.38 | 2.57 |
| UK Small Cos | 163.68 | 170.50 | +2.09 | 2.58 |
| -do- Accum | 185.47 | 193.19 | +2.36 | 2.58 |
| US Smlr Cos | 83.41 | 86.88 | +2.04 | 0.65 |
| -do- Accum | 85.14 | 88.52 | +2.17 | 0.65 |
| **SCOTTISH AMICABLE UT MGRS LTD** | | | | |
| 0141 204 2200 | | | | |
| Equity Income | 80.89 | 84.78 | +1.84 | 2.08 |
| Equity Trust | 105.00 | 111.04 | +3.58 | 2.37 |
| Equity Strategy | 107.80 | 114.08 | +2.75 | 1.61 |
| European Opps | 142.02 | 150.19 | +5.16 | 0.14 |
| UK Smaller Cos | 87.08 | 92.09 | +0.96 | 1.44 |
| [illegible] Inc | 96.78 | 101.33 | -2.20 | 7.64 |
| Japanese | 51.04 | 53.98 | +1.95 | |
| Asia Pacific | 84.09 | 88.93 | +5.04 | 0.52 |
| American | 179.74 | 190.08 | +3.47 | 0.87 |
| **SCOTTISH EQUITABLE FD MGRS LTD** | | | | |
| 0800 454 422 | | | | |
| Cash | 35.46 | 35.46 | +0.03 | 6.89 |
| UK Eq Gwth Inc | 80.41 | 85.56 | +2.13 | 2.27 |
| -do- Accum | 111.81 | 118.98 | +2.97 | 2.27 |
| Intl Income | 353.24 | 376.78 | +9.76 | 1.31 |
| -do- Accum | 632.94 | 675.14 | +17.50 | 1.31 |
| European | 141.03 | 149.81 | +4.26 | 0.98 |
| Japan | 50.73 | 53.74 | -0.88 | |
| American | 137.50 | 145.81 | +1.20 | 0.88 |
| Far East Tact | 62.49 | 66.84 | +5.31 | 2.20 |
| Ethical Inc | 47.51 | 50.81† | +0.78 | 1.89 |
| -do- Accum | 55.94 | 59.60† | +0.93 | 1.89 |
| UK Blue Chip Inc | 52.92 | 57.48† | +0.82 | 2.25 |
| -do- Accum | 67.28 | 71.57† | +1.44 | 2.25 |
| UK Equity Inc | 57.04 | 60.85 | +1.32 | 3.24 |
| -do- Accum | 88.58 | 92.35 | +2.01 | 3.24 |
| UK Global Inc | 80.52 | 84.72† | +1.40 | 1.52 |
| -do- Accum | 67.61 | 72.31† | +1.69 | 1.52 |
| World Tact | 102.34 | 108.45 | +2.58 | 0.89 |
| Europe Tactical | 102.10 | 108.08 | +3.17 | 0.55 |
| Technology | 192.25 | 204.00 | +8.84 | 0.49 |
| Dist Inc | 30.02 | 31.85† | +0.38 | 5.23 |
| -do- Accum | 32.25 | 34.32† | +0.41 | 5.23 |
| UK Gilt Inc | 28.85 | 28.41 | .. | 7.02 |
| -do- Accum | 29.24 | 30.94 | .. | 7.02 |
| **SCOTTISH LIFE INVESTMENTS** | | | | |
| 0131 225 2211 | | | | |
| UK Equity | 672.20 | 714.90 | +20.50 | 1.71 |
| American | 458.50 | 487.50 | +7.60 | 0.24 |
| Pacific | 315.40 | 337.30 | +18.40 | 0.29 |
| European | 651.70 | 689.10 | +22.70 | 0.57 |
| Worldwide | 100.80 | 107.40 | +2.50 | 0.28 |
| **SCOTTISH MUTUAL INV MGRS LTD** | | | | |
| 0141 248 6100 | | | | |
| UK Equity Inc | 435.30 | 462.00† | +12.40 | 1.82 |
| -do- Accum | 593.30 | 626.90 | +16.98 | 1.82 |
| UK Blt Co Eq Inc | 287.80 | 305.90† | +2.80 | 1.65 |
| -do- Accum | 380.10 | 393.00 | +3.30 | 1.65 |
| Select Opprtly Inc | 107.00 | 114.40 | +2.50 | 1.56 |
| Income Plus Inc | 114.50 | 121.90 | -3.80 | 2.46 |
| European Inc | 574.30 | 609.50 | +14.10 | 0.24 |
| -do- Accum | 665.20 | 707.10 | +18.30 | 0.74 |
| Far Eastern Inc | 132.52 | 128.10 | +10.09 | 1.75 |
| -do- Accum | 141.10 | 150.10 | +10.80 | 1.75 |
| Japanese Inc | 45.11 | 48.05 | +0.67 | |
| Nth American Inc | 459.40 | 488.60 | +9.86 | 0.09 |
| -do- Accum | 510.30 | 541.50 | +10.80 | 0.06 |
| Intl Growth Inc | 244.10 | 265.60† | +9.76 | 0.52 |
| Wwide Venture Inc | 108.40 | 115.10 | +3.60 | 0.47 |
| **SCOTTISH WIDOWS' FUND MGMT** | | | | |
| 0131 655 3724 | | | | |
| Equity Inc | 580.60 | 613.40 | +17.88 | 1.84 |
| -do- Accum | 909.20 | 960.60 | +27.70 | 1.84 |
| UK High Inc # | 281.70 | 297.60 | +8.20 | 2.84 |
| -do- Accum # | 450.30 | 475.70 | +13.10 | 2.84 |
| Europe Inc | 624.50 | 659.80 | +15.20 | 0.46 |
| Nth Amer Inc | 409.60 | 432.70 | +8.50 | 0.27 |
| Global Inc | 300.80 | 317.60 | +10.90 | 0.52 |
| Global Acc | 326.50 | 345.00 | +11.80 | 0.52 |
| UK Spec Sits Inc | 160.90 | 170.00 | +3.50 | 1.67 |
| South East Asia | 136.30 | 144.00 | +18.60 | 0.95 |
| Cash Trust Inc | 100.90 | 100.90 | +0.18 | 6.80 |
| UK Smlr Cos Inc | 136.50 | 144.20 | +0.70 | 1.92 |
| -do- Accum | 147.00 | 156.30 | +1.60 | 1.92 |
| Intl Bond Inc | 89.03 | 93.50 | +0.28 | 5.96 |
| International Stck | 91.85 | 97.27 | +1.70 | .. |
| **SHARP (ALBERT E)** | | | | |
| Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 261 010 | | | | |
| European | 213.00 | 224.20† | +7.00 | 0.25 |
| Nth American | 175.60 | 184.80† | +3.20 | |
| Intl Bond & Conv | 136.80 | 143.90 | +0.30 | 5.71 |
| Pooled Pension | 297.70 | 313.70 | +7.70 | 1.92 |
| Smaller Cos | 141.60 | 149.10 | +2.30 | 1.03 |
| UK General # | 218.40 | 229.90 | +7.30 | 1.82 |
| Far Eastern | 64.54 | 67.94 | +3.93 | 0.63 |
| **SINGER & FRIEDLANDER INVESTMENT FUNDS LTD** | | | | |
| 0171 638 6226 | | | | |
| Continental | 120.80 | 127.50† | +3.80 | 0.70 |
| Global Gwth | 95.61 | 100.90 | +2.73 | 1.00 |
| Inv 1st Port | 66.20 | 70.99 | +1.40 | 1.80 |
| Managed | 1601.37 | 1674.11† | -26.57 | 2.30 |
| Pref Inc # | 112.30 | 119.40† | +1.49 | 8.18 |
| Smaller Cos | 295.00 | 313.90† | +4.18 | 0.88 |
| Ireland SB Recognised | | | | |
| UK Equity Inc ‡ | 114.37 | | +3.16 | 4.46 |
| Sterling Reserve ‡ | 107.63 | | +0.12 | 7.86 |
| Corporate Inc ‡ | 105.14 | | -1.25 | 5.95 |
| Tel Pan ‡ | 77.95 | | +1.73 | |
| Asec ‡ | 79.16 | | +3.72 | |
| Amer Cth Fund ‡ | 175.33 | | +2.63 | |
| European ‡ | 73.62 | | +5.83 | |
| Global Bond ‡ | 91.30 | | +0.01 | 6.25 |
| Sumatral ‡ | 44.15 | | -1.73 | |
| UK Growth ‡ | 126.35 | | +3.50 | 2.84 |
| UK Emerg Leaders ‡ | 100.55 | | +1.13 | 2.86 |
| Investment Trust ‡ | 128.08 | | +2.92 | 1.71 |
| The Football Fd ‡ | 80.79 | | +0.14 | |
| Reserve Fall Up ‡ | 103.66 | | +0.13 | |
| Dream Reserve ‡ | 101.35 | | -1.02 | 3.80 |
| **SMITH & WILLIAMSON UT MGRS** | | | | |
| 0171 637 5377 | | | | |
| American | 576.70 | 618.20 | -19.50 | .. |
| Capital | 178.90 | 188.20† | -3.43 | 1.05 |
| Cash | 102.12 | 102.12 | +0.11 | 6.87 |
| European | 206.70 | 218.60 | +6.50 | 0.05 |
| Far Eastern | 134.70 | 142.50 | +3.70 | |
| Growth | 213.40 | 225.80† | +6.80 | 0.93 |
| Income # | 178.80 | 187.80 | -3.49 | 4.86 |
| Magnum | 184.70 | 195.40 | -4.70 | 1.12 |
| Smlr Secs | 696.26 | 736.76 | +8.30 | 0.07 |
| Thoroughbred | 216.10 | 228.60† | +5.70 | 1.06 |
| **SOVEREIGN UNIT TST MGRS LTD** | | | | |
| 0800 73 11 983 | | | | |
| Castle Prmnce | 60.55 | 64.72 | -1.56 | 7.00 |
| Ethical | 96.78 | 103.90 | +1.20 | 0.93 |
| European Growth | 108.00 | 114.50 | +2.70 | |
| Income # | 75.81 | 80.22 | +1.85 | 4.05 |
| Intl Growth | 126.38 | 133.80 | +2.99 | 0.13 |
| Managed | 114.40 | 121.30 | +3.40 | 0.17 |
| UK Growth | 91.16 | 97.49 | -1.64 | 1.13 |
| **STANDARD LIFE UNIT TRUSTS** | | | | |
| 0800 33 33 53 | | | | |
| Standard Life Fund Mngmt Ltd | | | | |
| Global Advtg Inc | 54.44 | 54.72† | +0.98 | 0.99 |
| Global Advtg Acc | 60.02 | 60.33 | +1.32 | 0.99 |
| Income Advtg Inc | 47.32 | 47.56 | +1.26 | 3.38 |
| Income Advtg Acc | 57.51 | 57.80 | +1.54 | 3.38 |
| UK Equity Gth Acc | 132.03 | 140.00 | +1.90 | 0.85 |
| Premier Intl Inc | 54.19 | 58.09 | +0.04 | 6.43 |
| Premier Inc Acc | 62.29 | 64.46 | +0.05 | 6.43 |
| Managed Acc | 74.70 | 79.19 | +1.50 | 1.85 |
| UK Eq Hi Inc Inc | 55.64 | 58.98 | +1.45 | 3.18 |
| UK Eq Hi Inc Acc | 76.89 | 81.51 | +2.01 | 3.18 |
| UK Smlr Cos Acc | 60.02 | 63.63 | +1.23 | 0.36 |
| Standard Life Tst Mngmt Ltd | | | | |
| UK Equity Gen Acc | 109.10 | 116.00 | +2.90 | 1.25 |
| UK Equity Gen Inc | 76.80 | 81.61 | +2.06 | 1.25 |
| Gilt & Fxd Int Inc | 34.94 | 36.95 | +0.04 | 6.00 |
| Oseas Lrg Co Acc | 392.70 | 426.10 | +8.50 | 5.94 |
| Nth American Acc | 76.57 | 81.15 | +0.59 | 0.21 |
| Pacific Basin | 30.98 | 32.92 | +2.08 | 1.75 |
| European Acc | 72.93 | 77.48 | +2.25 | 0.02 |
| Japan Acc | 22.55 | 23.96 | -0.04 | 0.75 |
| **STATE STREET UT MGMT LTD** | | | | |
| 0171 344 7000 | | | | |
| Global A ($US) | 5.441 | 5.780† | +0.13 | 1.75 |
| US Eqs (US$) | 4.712 | 4.989 | +0.13 | 0.82 |
| Far East Exjp (yen) | 237.90 | 252.70 | +1.68 | |
| FT Europe | 207.40 | 220.30 | -3.80 | 0.99 |
| FT N Amer (US$) | 4.024 | 4.275 | +0.22 | |
| FT Japan (yen) | 146.80 | 155.10 | +8.60 | |
| FT Asia ExJap (US$) | 2.214 | 2.352 | +0.16 | 0.97 |
| **STEWART IVORY UNIT TST MGRS LTD** | | | | |
| 0131 226 3271 | | | | |
| American | 840.90 | 878.50 | +10.30 | |
| British # | 1684.30 | 1782.00 | +49.40 | 2.05 |
| Emerging Mkts | 157.20 | 166.90 | +11.30 | 0.54 |
| Euro Gwth Inc | 129.10 | 136.60 | +4.40 | .. |
| Euro Small Co | 65.81 | 70.11 | +1.26 | .. |
| Japan | 91.74 | 97.32 | -0.35 | |
| Asia Pacific | 335.20 | 357.00 | +39.70 | 1.67 |
| -do- Accum | 364.70 | 388.40 | +33.40 | 1.67 |
| Inv Trust Acc | 342.90 | 363.50 | +8.00 | 0.89 |
| Mngd Equity | 246.40 | 260.70 | +6.00 | 1.77 |
| Mngd Cash | 95.87 | 95.87 | +0.09 | 6.72 |
| **SUN LIFE OF CANADA UT MGRS LTD** | | | | |
| 0800 525 725 | | | | |
| Asia Pacific | 15.69 | 16.70 | +1.46 | 2.47 |
| Corp Bd Gilt Inc | 108.74 | 113.56 | +0.09 | 6.13 |
| Corp Bd & Gilt Acc | 118.36 | 125.71 | +0.09 | 6.13 |
| European | 69.40 | 73.84 | +2.29 | 0.21 |
| Japan | 28.24 | 30.05 | +0.14 | 0.01 |
| Managed Assets | 175.43 | 187.63† | +4.08 | 1.87 |
| North American | 61.54 | 65.47 | +0.35 | 0.28 |
| Smlr Co's Inc | 42.46 | 45.18 | +0.78 | 1.47 |
| Smlr Co's Acc | 47.52 | 50.54 | -0.87 | 1.47 |
| UK Growth Inc | 86.53 | 92.09† | +2.34 | 1.56 |
| UK Growth Acc | 100.63 | 107.85 | +2.75 | 1.56 |
| Extra Income # | 59.92 | 64.08 | +1.22 | 3.79 |
| Worldwide Grth | 49.11 | 52.53† | +1.27 | 0.39 |
| **SUN LIFE TRUST MGMT LTD** | | | | |
| Enquiries: 0117 989 9000 | | | | |
| Discretionary | 64.27 | 68.37 | +1.81 | |
| UK Income Inc | 81.75 | 86.97 | +2.69 | 2.47 |
| Mngd Euro Inc Inc # | 40.66 | 43.31 | +0.47 | 5.98 |
| Mngd High Yld Inc | 118.36 | 125.70 | +2.20 | 3.34 |
| Mngd Inc/Gth Inc | 111.80 | 118.90 | +3.00 | 2.44 |
| UK Smaller Cos | 45.79 | 48.71 | -0.29 | 1.07 |
| Pacific Gth Port | 35.08 | 37.32 | +2.85 | 0.86 |
| **TSB UNIT TRUSTS** | | | | |
| 01264 346 794 | | | | |
| American | 407.00 | 430.69 | +3.85 | |
| -do- Accum | 449.29 | 474.36 | +4.24 | |
| Brit Growth | 168.06 | 177.84 | +3.93 | 1.13 |
| -do- Accum | 212.80 | 225.82 | +4.98 | 1.13 |
| Europa | 166.29 | 175.97 | +2.56 | |
| -do- Accum | 177.82 | 187.95 | +2.73 | |
| Extra Income # | 282.48 | 298.92 | +3.70 | 3.56 |
| -do- Accum # | 540.51 | 571.97 | -7.07 | 3.56 |
| Smaller Cos | 100.32 | 106.15 | -1.01 | 0.87 |
| -do- Accum | 115.80 | 122.64 | -1.17 | 0.87 |
| General | 477.90 | 505.81† | +8.84 | 1.38 |
| -do- Accum | 1044.68 | 1105.38 | +19.31 | 1.38 |
| Premier Income | 55.70 | 58.02† | +0.81 | 5.46 |
| -do- Accum | 150.37 | 156.63† | +0.02 | 5.46 |
| Income # | 510.64 | 540.38 | +8.39 | 3.25 |
| -do- Accum # | 1236.76 | 1308.74 | +22.75 | 3.25 |
| Pacific | 270.79 | 286.55 | +21.21 | 0.51 |
| -do- Accum | 284.54 | 301.10 | +22.29 | 0.51 |
| International | 754.33 | 798.45 | +12.52 | 0.20 |
| -do- Accum | 997.08 | 1055.09 | +16.54 | 0.20 |
| Nat Resources | 127.71 | 135.15 | -4.50 | 0.54 |
| Spcl Opps | 170.30 | 180.20 | +3.28 | 0.85 |
| -do- Accum | 227.01 | 240.23 | +4.37 | 0.85 |
| Environmental Inv | 115.84 | 122.58† | +4.79 | 0.52 |
| Selector | 95.41 | 100.86 | +1.62 | 1.24 |
| -do- Accum | 112.81 | 119.38 | +1.85 | 1.24 |
| High Income # | 91.01 | 96.31† | +1.11 | 3.45 |
| -do- Accum # | 130.94 | 138.56† | +1.59 | 3.45 |
| Intl Income | 65.33 | 69.14 | +0.39 | 4.19 |
| -do- Accum | 90.58 | 95.85 | +0.54 | 4.19 |
| Selector Income | 88.87 | 93.95 | +0.95 | 3.41 |
| -do- Accum | 108.87 | 115.21 | +1.25 | 3.41 |
| **TU FUND MANAGERS LIMITED** | | | | |
| 0181 687 1018 | | | | |
| British | 551.88 | 589.93 | +15.85 | 1.94 |
| European | 104.81 | 108.75 | +2.11 | 1.05 |
| **TEMPLETON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD** | | | | |
| 0131 469 4000 | | | | |
| Glob Growth Inc | 269.35 | 285.03† | +5.62 | 2.89 |
| Glob Growth Acc | 318.56 | 337.11† | +6.65 | 2.89 |
| Glob Balncd Inc | 217.79 | 230.47 | +4.52 | 4.02 |
| Glob Balncd Acc | 272.59 | 288.45 | +5.65 | 4.02 |
| Value Tst Inc | 165.34 | 174.96 | +3.85 | 2.30 |
| Value Tst Acc | 188.46 | 199.42 | +3.98 | 2.30 |
| **THORNHILL UNIT TST MGRS LTD** | | | | |
| 0171 628 0682 | | | | |
| Capital | 123.40 | 131.30† | +2.90 | 0.54 |
| International | 83.01 | 88.31 | +3.13 | |
| For Thornton see Dresdner RCM. | | | | |
| **THREADNEEDLE INVESTMENTS** | | | | |
| Client Serv: 0800 0683000 Inter Serv: 0800 0684000 | | | | |
| Threadneedle Investment Services | | | | |
| Managed Income | 52.24 | 54.70† | -0.92 | 3.68 |
| Caut Mgd Gth Acc | 52.25 | 54.81 | +0.73 | 4.14 |
| Bal Mgd Gth Acc | 51.45 | 53.87 | +1.16 | 2.63 |
| Adv Mgd Gth Acc | 50.51 | 52.89 | +1.44 | 0.88 |
| Threadneedle Investment Funds (OEIC) | | | | |
| Retail Shares (Class 1) | | | | |
| UK | | | | |
| UK Corporate Bd ‡ | 53.65 | | +0.02 | 6.42 |
| UK Equity Inc # | 57.44 | | +1.33 | 3.58 |
| UK Growth ‡ | 56.23 | | +1.55 | 1.34 |
| UK Gwth & Inc ‡ | 52.65 | | +1.32 | 2.49 |
| UK Money Secs ‡ | 50.57 | | +0.07 | 7.13 |
| UK Monthly Inc # | 52.83 | | +1.16 | 3.65 |
| UK Select Gwth ‡ | 58.41 | | +1.55 | 1.51 |
| UK Smaller Cos ‡ | 55.18 | | -0.86 | 0.91 |
| International | | | | |
| Amer Gwth Acc ‡ | 50.39 | | +0.86 | 0.19 |
| European Growth ‡ | 55.48 | | +1.83 | 0.06 |
| FE&Jap Gwth Acc ‡ | 33.97 | | +2.19 | |
| Global Bond ‡ | 52.08 | | +0.89 | 8.81 |
| Japan Gwth Acc ‡ | 38.05 | | +0.55 | |
| Specialist | | | | |
| Amer Sel Gwth ‡ | 51.53 | | +0.85 | 0.84 |
| Amer Sm Cos Gth ‡ | 53.67 | | +1.30 | |
| Asia Growth ‡ | 34.35 | | +3.20 | 0.19 |
| Euro Sel Gwth ‡ | 53.13 | | +1.82 | 0.06 |
| Emg Mkt Bd Fd ‡ | 54.21 | | +0.49 | 6.26 |
| Euro Sm Cos Gth ‡ | 55.62 | | +1.63 | |
| Gbl Sel Gth ‡ | 48.76 | | +1.21 | 0.11 |
| Jap Sm Cos Gth ‡ | 50.97 | | +0.88 | |
| Latin Amer Gth ‡ | 48.85 | | +1.94 | |
| Institutional Shares (Class 2) (£500,000 min) | | | | |
| UK | | | | |
| UK Equity Inc # | 57.47 | | +1.30 | 4.20 |
| UK Growth ‡ | 56.84 | | +1.56 | 1.88 |
| UK Gwth & Inc ‡ | 52.11 | | +1.37 | 2.98 |
| UK Inst Gwth ‡ | 56.23 | | +1.49 | 1.70 |
| UK Ocean Engs ‡ | 54.05 | | +1.42 | 1.08 |
| UK Select Gwth ‡ | 56.49 | | +1.55 | 2.07 |
| UK Smr Cos Gwth ‡ | 55.27 | | +0.88 | 1.44 |
| International | | | | |
| Amer Gwth Acc ‡ | 50.51 | | +0.67 | 0.60 |
| Euro Gwth Acc ‡ | 55.61 | | +1.84 | 0.56 |
| FE & Jap Gth Acc ‡ | 34.03 | | +2.10 | |
| Global Bond ‡ | 52.17 | | +0.10 | 7.41 |
| Japan Growth Acc ‡ | 38.14 | | +0.55 | |
| Specialist | | | | |
| Amer Sel Gwth ‡ | 51.64 | | +0.95 | 0.54 |
| Amer Sm Cos Gth ‡ | 53.72 | | +1.32 | |
| Asia Growth Acc ‡ | 34.46 | | +3.21 | 0.60 |
| Euro Sel Gth Acc ‡ | 53.24 | | +1.62 | 0.59 |
| Euro Sm Cos Gth ‡ | 55.68 | | +1.64 | |
| Jap Sm Cos Gth ‡ | 56.99 | | +0.89 | |
| Latin Amer Gth ‡ | 48.89 | | +1.94 | |
| **UNITED FRIENDLY UT TST MGRS LTD** | | | | |
| 01277 690 336 | | | | |
| UK Eq Inc Acc # | 442.85 | 470.59 | +11.14 | 3.54 |
| UK Equity Gwth | 478.95 | 509.53 | +13.56 | 1.51 |
| European | 241.99 | 256.48 | +6.34 | 0.47 |
| Nth American | 115.08 | 122.40 | +3.42 | 0.08 |
| Far Eastern | 59.85 | 63.67 | +3.27 | 0.47 |
| Money | 76.09 | 76.09† | +0.08 | 6.47 |
| Fixed Interest # | 91.45 | 97.05 | -0.15 | 7.22 |
| Index Linked Gilt | 82.51 | 87.51 | -0.12 | 1.56 |
| **VIRGIN DIRECT PFS LTD** | | | | |
| 0345 959595 | | | | |
| Income Trust | 113.78 | 113.78 | -0.23 | 5.60 |
| Pens Growth | 136.71 | 136.71† | +3.81 | |
| Pens Inc Prtct | 115.46 | 115.46† | -0.22 | |
| UK Index Tracking @ | 175.03 | 175.03 | +4.86 | 1.70 |
| **WAVERLEY UNIT TST MGMT LTD** | | | | |
| 0161 831 7455 | | | | |
| Australasian Gold | 14.38 | 15.14† | -0.32 | |
| Pacific Basin | 22.30 | 24.62 | +1.91 | |
| Global Bond (US$) | 0.9754 | 1.0160 | +0.01 | |
| Penny Share | 45.61 | 48.01 | +0.13 | |
| Japan Smlr Cos | 27.22 | 28.65 | +1.12 | |
| **WHITTINGDALE UNIT TST MGMT LTD** | | | | |
| 0171 623 2444 | | | | |
| Short Dat Gilt | 131.70 | 133.20 | +0.20 | |
| US Govt Bd (US$) | 0.8202 | 0.8207 | +0.00 | |
| Gilt Income | 52.89 | 53.72 | -0.87 | 6.20 |
| Gilt Growth | 88.41 | 89.80 | -0.23 | |
| Sterling Bond | 52.49 | 53.38 | -0.18 | 5.90 |
| **WOOLWICH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD** | | | | |
| 0181 298 4000 | | | | |
| Intl Mgd | 67.73 | 71.80 | +1.44 | 1.65 |
| UK Stockmarket | 134.90 | 143.50 | +3.90 | 1.99 |
| Corporate Bd Inc | 51.83 | 51.93 | -0.02 | 5.44 |
| Do Accum | 56.25 | 56.37 | -0.02 | 5.44 |

Source: FT Information

* Yield expressed as CAR (Compound Annual Return); † Ex dividend; ‡ Middle price; .. No significant data. # Periodic Charge deducted from capital; @ Exit Charge.

STOP!
Are you about to break the law by copying from this newspaper?

Under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988, generally, it is unlawful to reproduce articles from newspapers without permission even if only for internal management purposes. To make copies legally, your organisation must get a licence from the Newspaper Licensing Agency – set up to help you comply with the law quickly and easily.

You can obtain details of the licensing scheme and an application form by sending for a booklet. For your copy, simply contact the Newspaper Licensing Agency at Lonsdale Gate, Lonsdale Gardens, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN1 1NL or telephone 01892 525273, fax 01892 525275, email copy@nla.co.uk.

NLA



GO IT ALONE 61

Make sure your price is right

# WEEKEND MONEY

UNTOUCHABLES 56

Agency offers cover for risky clients



Enterprising investors tap into rich source of ideas, says **Susan Emmett**

# Boldly go in search of tips in cyberspace



The Internet could replace City wine bars as the best place to catch up on financial gossip

It is an investors' club, but not as we know it. Known to each other only by nicknames, Lord Percy, Birdie, PeeTee, Flatlander and Mystic May meet only in cyberspace to swap their latest share tips and stock market gossip.

Members of more traditional investors' clubs have been meeting over a pint to discuss the performance of their investment portfolios for decades. Now cyber investors logging on to Electronic Share Information (ESI), a veteran of financial information on the superhighway, have gone one step further, creating their very own virtual community — a blueprint for the future of private share ownership and a possible foundation for the first cyber investors' club.

Cyber etiquette dictates that anonymity should be observed at all times. But on this site giving yourself a nickname is practical as well as traditional. Alan English, alias Greystone, one of the founders of this virtual chat forum, says: "We don't want our employers to know we spend large amounts of our time looking at stocks and shares."

In true Internet tradition, many financial websites have set up "chat rooms", forums of conversation where investors can swap ideas. But because giving financial advice on "formal" sites such as ESI is frowned upon by the Financial Services Authority (FSA), the more enterprising cyber investors on ESI's site have set up their own bulletin board, which is not regulated. According to ESI, *The Bugle*, as it is known, has acquired a life of its own.

Buzzing with the type of conversation you would expect in City wine bars and coffee shops the maverick pages bring together investors from all over the country and as far afield as Germany, New Zealand and Africa. About 75 committed "buglers" spend the best part of each day posting messages to each other.

These investors are not men in suits. Many work in IT but *The Bugle* also attracts its fair share of housewives, retired professionals, scientists and students. Some of the investors play for high stakes, with portfolios worth up to £100,000. But there are a number of newcomers who have just started investing in equities as a result of the recent building society flotations. The students, however, tend to stick to phantom trading and picking up tips from the conversation forum.

There are up to 200 "threads" — topics of conversation in Internet speak — and an average of 50 new conversations a day. Most revolve around market topics as investors wax lyrical about the prospects for their favourite company, bad mouth badly performing stocks and defame brokers and market-makers.

Under another heading is a posting of the buglers' top 20 shares, with details of how they fared during the week. Last week's favourites include the Mice Group, Xenova, Eidos and the Dialog Corporation. This more formal part of the forum also includes topical articles on the economy and developments on other rival Internet sites.

Internet users who spend all of their time surfing the Net have long been criticised for losing touch with reality. But sharing market information in the virtual world is potentially more dangerous.

Mr English, an IT consultant in Derbyshire, said: "It's fun and interesting and it is difficult sometimes to remember it is real money you are playing with. You have to be careful not to get carried away."

The first appearance of *The Bugle* was a little more than six months ago. It started as a single page but has grown so much that it is now facing commercial pressures to set up as a permanent website. Members have been approached by advertisers and it is thought that the site could generate substantial revenue. However, members are reluctant to bring in advertisers and sponsors which could compromise the independent spirit of the enterprise.

Behind *The Bugle* lies a series of clubs within clubs. For every thread that is posted on the pages there are several more e-mail messages. And since members started posting personal information about themselves on a special section of the pages, cyber friends decided to break through the reality barrier and meet in the real world. As a result, a number of investors' clubs, where members pool together to invest in a portfolio, have been formed. Some meet face-to-face and some swap portfolio ideas by e-mail. These cyber clubs may not be co-ordinated in the same way as real world ones but they are already happening unofficially.

The idea of setting up a full-scale investors' club on the information superhighway is one that has been mulled on *The Bugle* many times. Some of the more active members are particularly keen, having formed part of real-world investors' clubs in the past.

Technology, however, is one of the barriers holding them back. The number of contributing buglers may be easy to count but there is nothing stopping other ESI browsers from clicking on to these special pages. ESI has some 100,000 registered users and on the last count more than 4,000 had visited *The Bugle*. Keeping tabs on investments could be difficult in these circumstances, but with the increasing speed of development, not impossible.

Working mum, page 50

# Institutions aim to catch you in Web

Once upon a time, financial institutions communicated with their customers as infrequently as possible, a little knowledge believed to be a dangerous thing. Now banks, building societies, fund management groups and insurance companies like to make a great show of providing information, with a website the essential accessory.

These are constantly being improved and modernised, like flats whose owners are never happy with their latest colour scheme. The number of households with access to the Internet has grown from 400,000 in June 1996 to close to one million. It is also estimated that six million people used the Internet last year in the UK alone.

It seems that people are not averse to sorting out their finances at work either, with some 2.2 million people being able to use the Internet at their place of employment.

With the cost of access to the Internet coming down all the time and other technological advances on the horizon, even greater numbers of people will be logging on in the future. It is expected that 35 million people in the UK and 150 million people worldwide will be on the Internet by the year 2000.

The Halifax website has this week been refurbished to cater for those anxious to browse through the bank's monthly housing survey, which this week reported that property prices have now returned to their peak of May 1989.

Customers can get details of mortgages, savings, apply for current accounts and personal loans. They can get quotes for travel insurance and also pay the premium. The 5.6 million Halifax faithful who are also shareholders can use the service to calculate the value of their shareholding simply by entering the number of shares held. The share price is updated every 20 minutes.

This week it took five seconds to calculate that the minimum distribution of 200 shares is now worth £1,876, an increase of close to 21 per cent since flotation. Later this year the Halifax will launch a site for offshore investors.

National Savings has also called in the interior decorators to its site. Improvements will include a list of unclaimed Premium Bond prizes. National Savings also plans to enable investors to make purchases online. The new service will be available in the spring.

Legal & General made its launch into cyberspace with InterPlan, an Internet money managing service.

So far the company's flexible mortgage is the only cyber product. But Legal & General is planning to use the service to enable customers to access and question their bank, life, pensions and investment plan details as well as providing healthcare and general insurance quotations.

The developments will spark off direct competition with PC banking services offered by many high street banks. So far the Bank of Scotland, TSB, Nationwide and Barclays offer PC banking.


*The Corporate Bond PEP*

**Legal & General's low costs provides better value and reduces risk**

Legal & General have led the way in providing low cost, high performance PEPs to our customers.

CURRENTLY PAYING 7.2% P.A. TAX-FREE INCOME

LOWEST COST – ONLY 0.5% ANNUAL MANAGEMENT CHARGE

NO INITIAL FEE

NO WITHDRAWAL FEE

*The low cost high income PEP*

| | ANNUAL MANAGEMENT CHARGE | RUNNING YIELD NO TAX |
|---|---|---|
| Legal & General Corporate Bond PEP | 0.5% | 7.2% |
| [illegible] | 0.7% | 7.0% |
| [illegible] | 0.7% | 5.8% |
| [illegible] | 1.25% | 6.2% |

Over the years, our determination to provide outstanding value for money has meant that today, Legal & General Investment Management has in excess of £54 billion under management.

Now, we are delighted to introduce the latest improvement to our PEP range – Legal & General's Corporate Bond PEP.

Once again, we've delivered unbeatable value, providing the lowest cost diversified Corporate Bond PEP on the market with annual management charges of only 0.5%, with no initial or withdrawal fee.

So, for a regular, high tax-free income on your savings find out more about Britain's best value Income PEP today. Just complete and return the coupon, call 0500 11 66 22 now or visit our website at www.LandG.com

*Find out more now – phone free* **0500 11 66 22**

FREEPHONE 8am TO 8pm WEEKDAYS 9am TO 5pm WEEKENDS PLEASE QUOTE REF: CTDL05

For your protection and to enable us to deal with any queries that may arise calls will usually be recorded and randomly monitored.

YES – I would like more information about Legal & General Corporate Bond PEP. Post to: Legal & General (Direct) Limited, FREEPOST SWC0467, Cardiff CF1 1YW.

Surname (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms)

Forenames

Address

Postcode Date of birth / /

Tel. No: Home Tel. No: Work

If you already have a PEP investment, please tick here ☐. CTDL05

We may telephone you to make sure information requested has arrived safely. Now and then, we may tell you about other products or services offered by the Legal & General Group of companies that we believe may be of interest to you. If you would prefer not to receive this carefully selected information, please tick here ☐

Legal & General

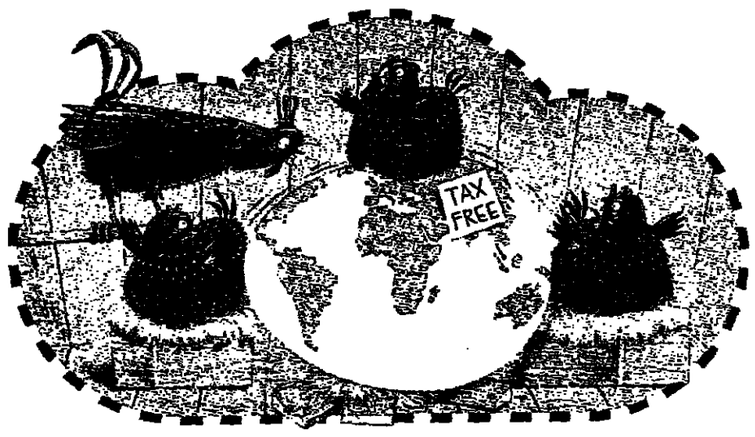
Subject to Government regulation. "Source: LGM (30.1.98). Past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. Both capital and income values may go down as well as up and you may not get back the amount invested. All comparisons of cost apply to PEPs investing wholly in Unit Trusts. Tax assumptions are those currently applicable and are subject to statutory change. The value of tax relief will depend on your individual circumstances. Full written details are available on request. Legal & General (Direct) Limited. Registered in England No. 2702080. Registered Office: Temple Court, 11 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4N 4TP. Representative only of the Legal & General marketing group, members of which are regulated by the Personal Investment Authority and IMRO for the purposes of recommending, advising on and selling life assurance and investment products bearing Legal & General's name. A member of AITTE. Investors should be aware that unlike cash in a Deposit Account the capital value of investments in Fixed Interest Trusts is not guaranteed. The gross yield of the Fixed Interest Trust was 7.2% (6.4% redemption yield) as at 30 January 1998. The Government published a consultative document in December 1997 on proposals for Individual Savings Accounts (ISAs) to be launched in April 1999. The terms and limits for converting an existing PEP into an ISA are being considered as part of the consultation.



TEMPLETON 'GLOBAL' PEP

**BUILD A BIGGER NEST-EGG WITH THE TEMPLETON 'GLOBAL' PEP**

*{Tax-free Saving from only £20 per month.}*




**ALL PERSONAL EQUITY PLANS LOOK THE SAME. UNTIL YOU TAKE A CLOSER LOOK. INVEST WITH TEMPLETON'S HIGH GROWTH 'GLOBAL' PEP AND YOU COULD FEEL ON TOP OF THE WORLD.**

Templeton has a 43-year track record of investing for higher growth. By searching the world for the top investment bargains, we have produced outstanding returns. For example, if you'd invested in the Templeton 'Global' PEP in 1993,① your tax-free holding would have nearly doubled: £1,000 would be worth £1,921; £6,000 – the most you can invest in one tax year – would now be worth £11,526!②

And this is not a 'flash-in-the-pan' result. Last year, the 5-year returns were similar. In fact, if you trace Templeton's performance from our first global fund in 1954, you'll find a history of higher growth.

The reason for our consistent excellence is that we search the whole world for stocks we believe are worth more than the asking price. And by diversifying investments round the world, we aim to boost returns and to minimise investment risk.

With savings plans from as little as £20 per month, almost anyone can afford to invest with Templeton. (Or, if you already have a PEP, you can simply transfer your account to the Templeton 'Global' PEP.)

**£1,000 INVESTED FIVE YEARS AGO②**

| | |
|---|---|
| TEMPLETON 'GLOBAL' PEP: | £1,921 |
| INTERNATIONAL SECTOR AVE.: | £1,706 |
| BUILDING SOCIETY: | £1,194 |

Becoming a Templeton PEP-holder is easy. For more information, visit Templeton's website at **www.templeton.co.uk** or for an application form, simply call Templeton Client Services on freefone **0800 27 27 28**.

Templeton

Part of the £140 billion Franklin Templeton Group

To Templeton Registration Office, Freepost EH2721, 17 Napier Square, Livingston EH54 5BR. TT 0798

Please send me a Priority Application Form and more information on the Templeton 'Global' PEP.

Name

Address

Postcode



Issued by Templeton Investment Management Ltd. Regulated by IMRO and the Personal Investment Authority and a member of the Templeton Marketing Group. Past performance is not necessarily a guide to future returns. Values may fall as well as rise, and investors may not get back the full amount invested. Changes in exchange rates may cause values to fluctuate. ①In accordance with Inland Revenue rules, the 'Global' PEP assumes investment of 75% of PEP allowance in the Templeton Value Trust, 25% in the Templeton Global Growth Trust. ②® Standard & Poor's Micropal Ltd. Tel: 0181 741 4100 http://www.micropal.com, 5 years to 31/12/97. Offer in bid, gross income reinvested. Current PEP allowances may change and their value will depend on your personal circumstances. Always consult an Independent Financial Adviser. Prospective investors in the 'Global' PEP should note that, subject to acceptance, the PEP's underlying Unit Trust will be converted into sub-funds of a new open-ended investment company (OEIC) in the spring of this year. The future of PEPs is under review following HM Government's consultative paper of Individual Savings Accounts (ISAs) issued in December 1997.

SAVE £20 ON THIS SUPERB OMEGA TROLLEY-CASE



# Stylish trolley-case

## only £49.95 (saving £20 on mrrp)

*Times* readers are offered this stylish trolley-case for only £49.95 including free delivery and packing, a saving of £20 on the mrrp of £69.95.

Specially developed for today's business traveller and ideal for short breaks, the Omega is designed for maximum use of space and with a telescopic tow-handle, top and side carry handles and wheeled base, it is extremely easy to transport.

The main compartment combines a two-fold zipped suiter section for hanging shirts, jackets, and skirts, with a spacious suitcase area for other items and two sets of packing straps.

Other features include four front zip pockets, two expanding, these being a folio section and an organiser compartment with purse/wallet pocket, pen loops, mobile phone holder, etc.

Made from a durable tear-proof fabric and available in black, the Omega trolley-case measures 36 x 54 x 23cm.

*The Times* trolley-case offer

Name (Mr/Mrs/Ms) _____

Address _____

Post Code _____

| ITEM | QTY | £/ITEM |
|---|---|---|
| OMEGA TROLLEY-CASE | | £49.95 |
| *Price includes postage and packing.* | TOTAL COST | |

Allow 28 days for delivery from receipt of order. Offer available in UK & Eire. If dissatisfied please return goods within 7 days of receipt for full refund. No claims for loss in transit can be made after 60 days. The Times cannot be held responsible for returned goods lost in transit. Offer subject to availability.

I enclose a cheque/postal order(s) made payable to: *The Times* trolley- case offer FT639.

Value _____ No. _____

Please write name and address on back of all cheques.

Or debit my Access/Visa card number:

Print Name _____ Expiry Date _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Send coupon and remittance to THE TIMES TROLLEY-CASE OFFER FT639, PO Box 333, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 7ZD.

You may be sent further information on offers and services which may be of interest to you.

If you do not wish to participate please tick box. ☐

FOR ORDERS PLEASE TELEPHONE 01525-851945 (24 HOURS)

# Painful linguistic gymnastics



COMMENT

ANNE ASHWORTH

*Personal Finance Editor*

The financial services industry does not revere the English language. It rarely uses a simple phrase when it can find a more complex one. Its speciality is the unlovely, invented word. The introduction of the individual savings account (Isa) threatens to bring a new low to this cycle of linguistic abuse. From the people who brought you "Peppable" we now have "Isability". It may make you wince. But, for the next few months, it will be difficult to avoid.

Fund managers wish to sell as many personal equity plans as possible before they are withdrawn in April 1999. But they suspect that people will only buy if they can be assured that their Pep will be painlessly transformed into an Isa, being "Isable" in fact.

Some leading groups have already made their "Isability" guarantee, promising no charges at the time of the switch nor extra annual management fees (see page 54). Others are reluctant to make this pledge, arguing that the final form of the Isa is a secret known only to the Chancellor and his advisers. Ministers say that Isas must be low cost but seem to forget that many managers will need to install new systems to operate the accounts. In one way or another, this expenditure will be passed on to customers.

As they put the finishing touches to the Isa, ahead of next month's Budget, ministers must address the issue of transfers between Peps and Isas and all charges that may levied. Or they will be responsible not only for assisting in the violation of the mother tongue, but also for a new investment mis-selling scandal.

## Least said . . .

KITEMARKING is a word to make many in the financial services industry use language that is not so much concocted as unprintable. The long overdue grading of pensions and other investments as best or worst buys, like fridges or any other consumer product, would reveal that many companies offer inflexible schemes with high charges. Perhaps the threat of such a system will prompt the worst offenders to mend their ways now, helping today's customers to get a better deal.

## Tessa rerated

ISA'S advent has highlighted the attractions of the Tessa: simple, low risk and so on. But you may be wondering why the Tessa has found so few defenders in the Isa debate. Cynics claim that some savings institutions will not mourn her passing because they make no money from her. Tessas pay high rates on relatively small amounts. Under the proposals, savers will be able to invest £1,000 in cash and be entitled to instant access, giving banks and building societies every excuse to pay low rates.

**Susan Emmett** reports on how a computer awakened an interest in share dealing

# Working mum's Net profit

Last summer Nicola Soremekum knew nothing about the Internet and very little about equities. Since then she has become an active investor and controls her own portfolio in cyberspace.

A manager in the music industry and mother of two she made her breakthrough after discovering Electronic Share Information (ESI), a Website providing real-time share prices and information. The site was recommended by an independent financial adviser when Ms Soremekum admitted she did not know what to do with shares left to her by a relative.

Ms Soremekum was hooked the moment she surfed her first wave and decided to look after her own investments rather than rely on stockbrokers. She said: "The Internet enables you to do things immediately. The normal sources of reference are never available immediately. With the Internet you are in control.

"If you are dealing in shares on the Internet, you are not dependent on a stockbroker who may go out to lunch before putting your order through. You are in the driving seat. The best thing about the Net is you can see the moment a trade goes through. I do all my dealing online."

Ms Soremekum is also a member of the Bugle, a thriving community of Internet investors who met in cyberspace through ESI, and is keen to become part of a cyber investors' club.

As a working mother running her own business from home, Ms Soremekum juggles her job managing dance music producers with looking after her investments and swapping share tips with fellow "buglers".

"I check my messages every three hours and read the Bugle bulletin when it is updated once a week. I became interested in investment and the Internet during my second pregnancy last summer. I figured I needed another hobby as I would be staying in a lot with two small children," she said.

Ms Soremekum now spends her evenings charting the progress of her various investments. "Once the kids have gone to bed, I make my charts every night. I find it quite relaxing. I make about 25 different charts of the shares I hold and the ones that I'm watching."

ANDRÉ CAMARA



Nicola Soremekum is able to look after her own investments on the Internet without having to rely on a stockbroker




Surrendering your policy?
If it's a with-profits endowment policy, there is an alternative.
Neville James.
We pay more

- Prompt valuations, firm offers
- No charge to sellers
- Our own staff, 12 hours a day, 7 days a week 8.00 a.m to 8.00 p.m

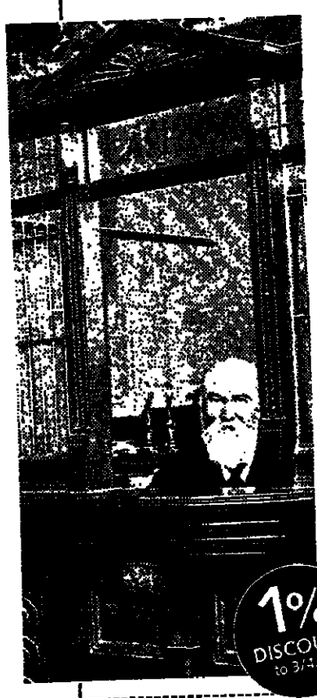
PLEASE CALL NOW
01243 52 00 00
OR FAX
01243 52 00 01
E-mail: policies@neville-james.co.uk

*Neville* JAMES
The Traded Endowment Professionals

Neville James Limited, Forum Integritatis, West Pallant, Chichester, PO19 1TB. Neville James Limited (NJL) is regulated by the Personal Investment Authority, and is a member of the Association of Policy Market Makers. NJL acts as agent for associated companies in the purchase and sale of Endowment Policies.

FINANCIAL FUND

*Our star performer*



If this is your image of the banking world, think again. The Framlington Financial Fund invests only in banks and other financial sector stocks and its performance has been anything but dull.

The Framlington Financial Fund
TOP 10%
performance of all unit trusts over 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 years and since launch*

Investments in the fund have grown by 160% over the last 5 years, and by 30% in 1997 alone.* We believe that this exceptional performance is set to continue.

1% DISCOUNT to 31/1/98

Before you make your PEP decision, ask your Financial Adviser for details or ring
0345 023138

*Please send me details of the Framlington Financial Fund and PEP. Return the coupon to: Framlington Unit Management Limited, Freepost, P.O. Box 2, Twyford, Reading, Berkshire RG10 8BR.*

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

Postcode _____

*If you do not wish to receive details of Framlington products in future, please tick the box* ☐ FT 7/2/98 FF

* Source: Micropal, offer to bid, net income reinvested to 1 January 1998. Launch date 13 October 1986. Issued by Framlington Unit Management Limited, member of the Framlington Marketing Group. Regulated by the Personal Investment Authority and IMRO. Member of AUTIF. Past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. The price of units and the income from them can go down as well as up and investors may not get back the amount originally invested. Changes in exchange rates will affect the value of the Fund's overseas investments. Investment in single sector funds offers the possibility of higher returns but may also involve a higher degree of risk. The Government has announced that from 1999 tax advantaged schemes, such as PEPs and TESSAs, will be replaced with a new Individual Savings Account (ISA). Details of the ISA are currently subject to consultation and the final form is not yet known.

framlington

WITH-PROFITS BOND

A worry-free investment offering the best of both worlds.

**Security and Potential Capital Growth**

If that sounds like your dream come true, then The Equitable With-Profits Bond is a winning combination for your investments.

With £500 you can invest in a managed fund of assets, which smooths the short-term fluctuations in value over the period of your investment.

So, you can strike a balance between keeping your savings safe in a building society, but possibly eroded by inflation, and the potentially lucrative but more risky option of investment in equities.

And, as part of your medium to long-term investment plans, The Equitable With-Profits Bond can play an important and profitable part.

Of course, you also have the reassurance and peace of mind which comes from dealing with The Equitable Life, the world's oldest mutual life office.

If you would like more information on achieving the best of both worlds with The Equitable With-Profits Bond, call (0990) 38 48 58, or return the coupon below for details by post and by telephone.

www.equitable.co.uk

For your security your telephone call may be recorded
Information/advice will only be given on Equitable group products
Regulated by the Personal Investment Authority
THE EQUITABLE LIFE, FREEPOST, WALTON STREET, AYLESBURY, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE HP21 7BR

To: The Equitable Life, FREEPOST, Walton Street, AYLESBURY, Bucks HP21 7BR
I would welcome information on The Equitable With-Profits Bond ☐ TMBC88

NAME (Mr Mrs Miss) _____

ADDRESS _____

Tel: (Office) _____

Tel: (Home) _____

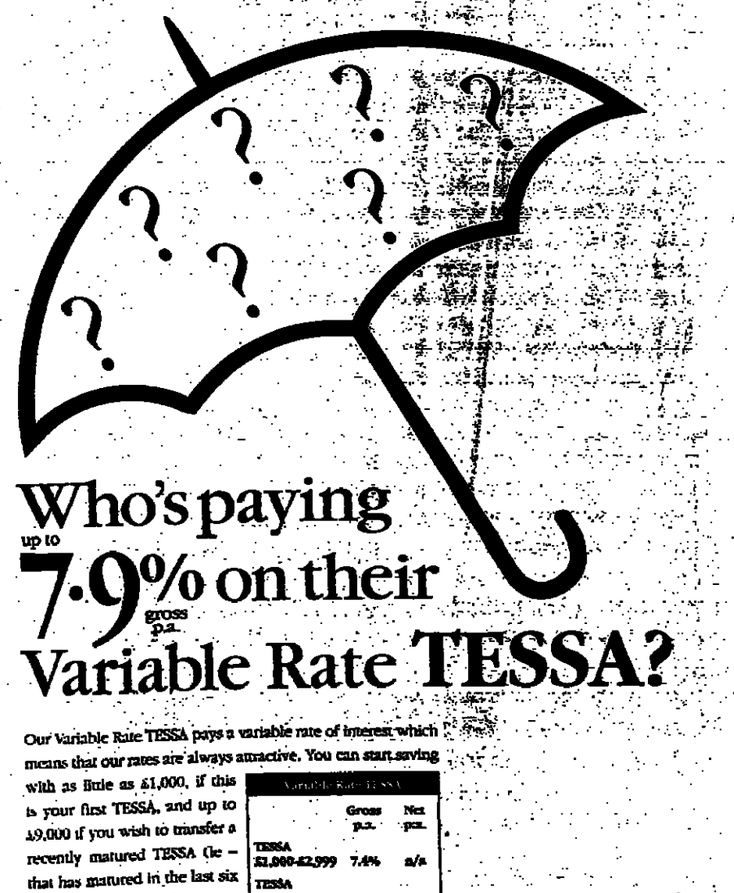
Date of Birth _____

Postcode _____

The Equitable and its subsidiaries will receive these details. If, however, you would prefer to receive no further information from us, please tick this box ☐

Founded 1762

The Equitable Life
You profit from our principles



Who's paying up to 7.9% gross p.a. on their Variable Rate TESSA?

Our Variable Rate TESSA pays a variable rate of interest which means that our rates are always attractive. You can start saving with as little as £1,000, if this is your first TESSA, and up to £9,000 if you wish to transfer a recently matured TESSA (ie – that has matured in the last six months). Unfortunately, we are unable to accept transfers from other TESSA providers which have not yet matured. And what's more, there's also a special Feeder Account if you want to earn a high rate on your savings each year – prior to investing them in your TESSA.

| | Gross p.a. | Net p.a. |
|---|---|---|
| TESSA £1,000-£2,999 | 7.4% | n/a |
| TESSA £3,000 | 7.9% | n/a |
| Feeder Account | 7.9% | 6.32% |

Quote ref: C005 DL02. Lines are open 8am-8pm Mon-Fri and 9am-5pm weekends. For your protection, and to enable us to deal with any queries that may arise, calls will usually be recorded and randomly monitored.

Rates correct at time of going to press. All rates are variable. Interest on the Feeder Account is paid net of income tax (currently 20%) and can be paid gross to UK residents subject to required certification. Only available to applicants aged 18 or over who do not already have a TESSA with Legal & General or any other TESSA provider, or who have had a TESSA that has matured with another provider. TESSA: Minimum investment £1,000. Maximum investment £9,000 over 5 years subject to Inland Revenue limits. Feeder: A combined investment of £9,000 must be deposited in order to open the Feeder Account, which is not a TESSA.

Legal & General
trust us to deliver

# Can small-fry make return to big time?

**Magnus Grimond** looks at the prospects for a sector that has underperformed through the Nineties

Smaller companies are out of favour. The annual end-of-term report on the sector by professors Elroy Dimson and Paul Marsh, of the London Business School, has exposed a decade of underperformance, culminating in a calamitous 1997.

After outclassing its bigger brethren in the FTSE all-share index by an average of 6 per cent a year from 1955 to 1989, the smaller-companies sector, measured by Hoare Govett's Smaller Companies Index (HGSCI), has underperformed by the same amount ever since. Indeed, a veil is best drawn over 1997, when the HGSCI squeezed out a meagre total return of 9.5 per cent, against the storming 28.7 per cent put in by the blue chip FTSE 100 index.

As our table shows, investors unlucky enough to have had their savings in a smaller-companies fund will be feeling a little aggrieved at what they have been missing. According to Reuters Funds, the performance measurement company, only HSBC UK Smaller Companies and Baring UK Smaller Companies beat the all-share index. But some would argue that it is at times like these, when a sector is out of fashion, that the canny should pile in.

Anyone can have an off year; eight, however, look more serious. The two professors who coined the phrase "the small company effect" to explain the sector's outperformance are now busily having to explain why smaller companies have failed so miserably over such a long period. They blame inferior dividend growth. The bad news is that it looks set to continue this year, at least if you believe Hoare Govett.




Malcolm Morgan, of Hoare Govett, remains gloomy about the prospects. He said: "We feel it is likely to be a difficult year and the reasons for that are due to a decline in the growth of gross domestic product, which is really being fuelled by manufacturing output."

Smaller companies tend to be manufacturers, and Hoare Govett reckons manufacturing output will fall from around 1.8 per cent to 1 per cent this year. The sector is also a heavy exporter to Europe, so it is going to continue to suffer if the pound stays above three marks, says Mr Morgan. The effects of the pound's rise early last year are still coming through now, he says, which means any fall may not feed through until the second half of this year.

But not everyone is as bearish. Toby Thorrington, at Panmure Gordon, says: "We think smaller companies, either in isolation or in relation to their peers, have rarely been so cheap."

Earnings, a key determinant of share prices, have been growing faster than both their bigger rivals and their share prices, says Panmure, which has resulted in a substantial derating of the sector. Price-earnings ratios are now well below those of the rest of the market.

With pension funds alone sitting on perhaps £30 billion of cash at the end of last year, the problem is convincing investment institutions awash with liquid assets to put some of them into the stock market and into smaller companies in particular. Panmure argues that at some stage, smaller companies become such good value that investment is unavoidable.

It is a theme echoed by others. Jayesh Manek, who has raised £56 million for his Manek Growth Fund, says: "Footsie stocks are over-rated and I think institutions will start looking down among the mid-cap and small-cap stocks."

Jason Hollands, of the investment advisers BESt Investment, agrees: "Eventually these anomalies correct themselves and we are expecting a good year this year." Mr Hollands adds that you should not go far wrong with a smaller-companies fund run by managers with a good long-term performance record.

He picks Gartmore UK Smaller Companies, run by the successful team of Frank Manduca and Gervais Williams, and Schroder Smaller Companies, managed by Andy Brough. Another which deserves an honourable mention is Invesco UK Smaller Companies Fund, he says, and Bill Mott's Credit Suisse Smaller Companies Fund. Mr Mott took an ultimately unsuccessful punt that Labour would boost exporters by talking down the pound last year, which hit performance. But prior to that, Mr Hollands says the fund has been one of the best performers.

With 72 unit trusts and 42 investment trusts in the sector, there is something for everyone. The risk-averse could choose one of the two smaller-company tracker funds. Run by Broadgate Investment Management, part of Hoare Govett, they claim to come within 1 per cent of mirroring the Hoare Govett smaller-companies indices on average, although they will move over to tracking the FTSE Small Cap and Fledgling indices later this year.

But there is no need to concentrate only on smaller-companies funds. The Manek Growth Fund will have a liberal smattering of small caps, and Ian Millward, of Chase de Vere, also highlights Schroder UK Enterprise and Fidelity Special Situations for their good management.

**SMALLER COMPANIES BOMB OUT IN 1997**

| UNIT TRUST | 1 YEAR | 5 YEARS | INITIAL | ANNUAL |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **BEST IN 1997** | | | | |
| HSBC UK Smaller Companies | 31.9 | n/a | 5.25 | 1.5 |
| Baring UK Smaller Cos. | 24.8 | 103 | 5.00 | 1.0 |
| NatWest UK Smaller Cos. | 21.9 | n/a | 5.25 | 1.25 |
| Gartmore UK Smaller Cos. | 20.1 | [illegible] | 5.25 | 1.5 |
| BWD UK Smaller Cos. | 19.2 | [illegible] | 4.50 | 1.5 |
| **[illegible]** | 1 YEAR | 5 YEARS | INITIAL | ANNUAL |
| Guinness Flight Instit. UK Smaller Cos. Income | -2.0 | 109 | 0.75 | 0.5 |
| CU PPT Smaller Cos. Income | -2.6 | 87.4 | 4.00 | 1.0 |
| Royal & Sun Alliance UK Smaller Cos. | -2.7 | 49.8 | 5.00 | 1.00 |
| Baillie Gifford British Smaller Cos. | -3.2 | n/a | 5.00 | 1.25 |
| Abbey National Smaller Cos. | -3.7 | 80.4 | 5.00 | 1.25 |
| UK Smaller Cos. Average | -8.0 | [illegible] | 4.57 | 1.23 |
| FTSE All-Share Index 23.1 108 | 23.1 | [illegible] | — | — |
| Hoare Govett Smaller Companies Index 9.5 102 | 9.5 | [illegible]2 | — | — |

Source: Reuters Funds




Reap the rewards of Europe's privatisation boom

MERCURY EUROPEAN PRIVATISATION TRUST PEP

European governments are planning to privatise billions of pounds of assets over the next two years. You can benefit from this outstanding opportunity by investing in the Mercury European Privatisation Trust plc via a tax-free PEP.

The Trust has an excellent track record which has already helped it to win Investment Trust magazine's "Best Large Investment Trust Award" for 1997.

BEST LARGE INVESTMENT TRUST AWARD

Even better – invest a lump sum of £6,000 or transfer existing PEPs worth £6,000 or more before 5th April 1998, and we will waive our usual 1% dealing charge. You can also invest from as little as £75 per month.

For details, contact your financial adviser, return the coupon or call us free.

CALL NOW 0500 0500 66

To: Brochure Requests, Mercury Asset Management plc, FREEPOST KE4930, London EC4B 4DQ. Please send me details of the Mercury European Privatisation Trust PEP.

Title Surname

Forenames in full

Address

Postcode

Ref: TMPB06/98

MERCURY ASSET MANAGEMENT

Past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. ■ The value of shares and income from them can fluctuate and are not guaranteed. You may not get back the amount you invest. ■ Changes in rates of exchange may cause the value of your investment to rise or fall. ■ The tax treatment of PEPs will be changed in April 1999. ■ This is not an offer or recommendation to invest in the shares of the Trust and must not be relied upon by any potential investor when making a decision to invest. ■ For your protection, telephone calls are usually recorded. ■ Issued by Mercury Asset Management plc, 33 King William Street, London EC4R 9AS. Regulated by IMRO.

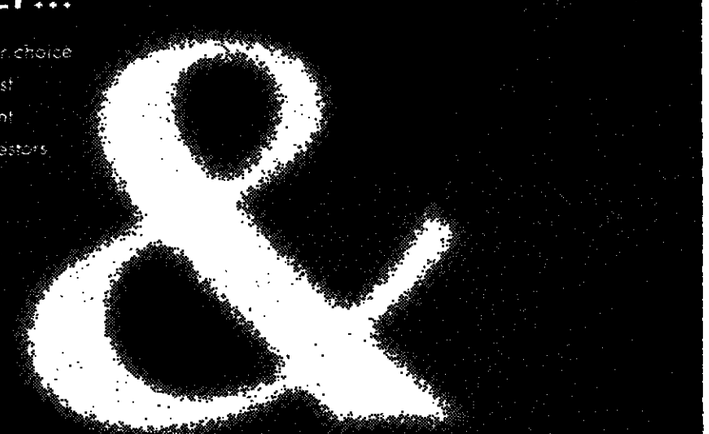


BAILLIE GIFFORD

The Scottish Mortgage and Trust

A low cost PEP...

Scottish Mortgage is a popular choice for PEPs. It is the second largest international general investment trust in the UK* and offers investors a well-diversified international portfolio at low cost.



a Savings Scheme

Many people also choose Scottish Mortgage for saving. The Savings Scheme offers the flexibility to save either regularly or occasionally, again at low cost.

The Scottish Mortgage & Trust PLC is managed by Baillie Gifford & Co., Scotland's largest independently owned investment firm. For further information and an application form for the PEP or the Savings Scheme please contact us on FREECALL 0500 418008, Fax 0131 222 4490, E-mail: trustenquiries@bailliegifford.co.uk or return the coupon below.

Please note that information about past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance, and the price of shares may fall as well as rise. Investors may not get back the amount they invested and changes in currency exchange rates may cause the investment to fall or rise. The value of the current PEP tax reliefs will depend on your individual circumstances. In the July 1997 budget, it was announced that as at April 6th 1999, the income tax reliefs will no longer be reclaimable in a PEP and that other tax benefits may change with the planned introduction of an Individual Savings Account. This advert has been issued and approved by Baillie Gifford Savings Management Ltd (BGSM). BGSM is the manager of The Baillie Gifford Investment Trust Savings Scheme and The Baillie Gifford PEP. BGSM is wholly owned by Baillie Gifford & Co., who are the managers and secretaries of The Scottish Mortgage & Trust PLC. BGSM & Baillie Gifford & Co are regulated by IMRO.
*Source AITC Monthly Statistics 31.12.97, size ranked by total assets

Please send me [illegible]

Name

Address

Postcode Daytime Telephone

Baillie Gifford Savings Management Ltd, Freepost EH1 2BR, 1 Rutland Court, Edinburgh EH3 8BR



THE UK's HIGHEST YIELDING CORPORATE BOND PEP.

(8.12% p.a. tax free)

— Is also the top performing Corporate Bond PEP — Ideal for investors wanting a high income — Micropal 5 star rating and AA rated by S & P Fund Research — Transfer your existing PEPs free of the initial charge† — Aberdeen Prolific – now one of the UK's leading investment specialists with £11bn under management — Call now on 0800 35 37 37 to bring a smile to your face

Aberdeen Prolific

Please send me details of: Aberdeen Prolific Corporate Bond PEP. Please return this coupon to Aberdeen Prolific Unit Trust Managers Limited, Freepost, 10 Queen's Terrace, Aberdeen AB10 1WY

Title (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms) Initials Surname

Address Post Code

REFERENCE NUMBER C07B PLEASE QUOTE WHEN PHONING

If you do not wish to receive any further mailings from Aberdeen Prolific, please tick the box ☐ Aberdeen Prolific Fixed Interest 8.12% running yield and 8.30% gross redemption yield as at 4/11/97. This is an annual figure and income may fluctuate. Source: Reuters Hindsight, offer to bid, with gross income reinvested. Aberdeen Prolific Fixed Interest is the underlying unit trust and is top in the UK Fixed Interest sector over 2,3,5 and 10 years. Please remember that past performance is not necessarily a guide to the future. The value of units and the income from them may go down as well as up and you may not get back the amount originally invested. The Chancellor has announced that a new tax privileged investment, the Individual Savings Account, will be available from 1999. Although details have yet to be finalised, he has said that you will be able to switch your accumulated PEP investment(s), up to the maximum permitted, into it. The tax free status will remain unchanged until then. Issued by Aberdeen Prolific Unit Trust Managers, regulated by IMRO and the Personal Investment Authority and a member of Autif. The Manager's periodic charge is taken out of capital, distributable income will be increased at the expense of capital which will either be eroded or future growth restrained. †The effect of the bid/offer spread means that the overall cost is approximately 0.7% of the transferred PEP. ‡Initial charge reduced to 3.5% for all lump sum investments made between 2/2/98 and 1/5/98.

SPECIAL DISCOUNT SAVE UP TO £45

A NEW ANGLE ON INVESTMENT 0800 35 37 37

Bonus Postal Account. Rates of up to

# 7.80%

gross C.A.R.

Plus access when you need it.

Do you want a better return on your savings? Take a look at our instant access postal account rates and believe your eyes.

The account includes a unique 2% gross C.A.R. quarterly bonus (based on your minimum balance for the quarter).*

On top of that, if you need access to your money immediately, you can get at it by post, without delay.

To open an account call Abbey National Direct, Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm or Saturday 9am to 1pm, quoting reference AS05P or call into your local branch or fill in the coupon below.

**0800 174 635**

| | | £2,500 | £10,000 | £25,000 | £50,000 | £100,000 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Abbey National | Bonus Postal* | 7.30% | 7.50% | 7.60% | 7.70% | 7.80% |
| Tesco | Instant Access | 6.50% | 6.50% | 6.50% | 6.50% | 6.50% |
| Nationwide | Invest Direct | 6.80% | 6.95% | 7.10% | 7.20% | 7.35% |
| Sainsbury's Bank | Instant Access | 6.50% | 6.50% | 6.50% | 6.50% | 6.50% |
| Direct Line | Instant Access | 5.80% | 7.00% | 7.05% | 7.15% | 7.25% |
| Woolwich | Postal 60 | 6.75% | 7.15% | 7.35% | 7.55% | 7.75% |

Source: Moneyfacts. Bonus Postal Account rates are quoted gross C.A.R. and include a unique 2% gross C.A.R. bonus. All other rates quoted gross p.a. All financial information is checked for accuracy on a weekly basis.

Saving and Investing

ABBEY NATIONAL®

Because life's complicated enough.

P38

You may be able to register with us to receive interest gross; otherwise it will be paid net of income tax at the prescribed rate. Rates may vary. The minimum investment is £2000. *A bonus is payable each quarter that the balance of the account does not fall below £2000. The Compounded Annual Rate (C.A.R.) is the equivalent annual gross rate that would be achieved if interest, which is paid quarterly, was credited to the account. This account is not available to residents of the Isle of Man or the Channel Islands. To assist us in improving our service, we may record or monitor telephone calls. Abbey National and the Umbrella Couple symbol are trademarks of Abbey National plc, Abbey House, Baker Street, London NW1 6XL, United Kingdom.

Please complete and send to: Abbey National Direct Postal Account Centre, Freepost BE 1890, PO Box 422, Belfast BT2 7BR.

Name: Address:

Postcode: Phone number: (Daytime) (Evening)

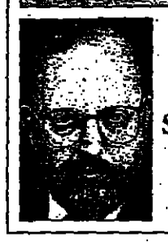
Date of birth: Signature(s):

Please find attached my cheque for £ _____ to invest in the Abbey National Bonus Postal Account or send me further information. ☐ P38/CS05P

Please send a personal cheque drawn from an account in and showing your name, plus one confirmation of address per applicant e.g. utility bill, bank or credit card statement.


# The Onion of Omaha

PERSONAL INVESTOR



GRAHAM SEARJEANT

One trader typified reaction to finding that American billionaire Warren Buffett had bought 3,000 tons of silver. "We are bound to have some camp followers just because it's Mr Buffett," he correctly predicted. "His track record is second to none. This guy is a demi-god in investment."

As in the real old time religion, the master speaks in parables but most of what we know about him comes from disciples and amanuenses. You can buy *The Warren Buffett Way* by Robert G Hagstrom, or even *Warren Buffett Speaks*, wit and wisdom collected by Janet Lowe. Both published by Wiley, they describe their subject as "the world's greatest investor".

The gospel according to Buffett can only be read directly in annual instalments. It appears in the eccentric reports of Berkshire Hathaway, the company that now has silver to the value of $900 million, whose original shares now trade at a high of about $53,000 each and whose annual shareholders' meeting in provincial Nebraska can attract 6,000 adoring investors.

The wit and wisdom of the Sage of Omaha, though good-humoured and well-intentioned, can be a bit excruciating. Coke-swilling Buffett has always operated from his home town in America's Midwest. His outer skin, a brash, homespun, country 'n' western good ol' boy, is a convenient conceit. Mr Buffett plays the equivalent of Dr Watson to George Soros's Professor Moriarty, but is much more like Dr Watson's *alter ego*, Sherlock Holmes.

In principle, America's reputed second richest man is a value investor who sticks to simple businesses he can understand. But he is no longer hunting for assets in the bargain basement. He finds value in future cashflow and the lack of risk embodied in strong finances, brands or market positions.

The notions are simple. In reality, Berkshire projects companies' earnings or cashflow growth into the future. It allows for risk, discounts them back to the present and compares present value to the price offered by "Mr Market". Mr Buffett focuses the portfolio on a few big stakes, such as 8 per cent of Coca-Cola, and usually keeps them many years.

In the Buffett canon, you ignore market fluctuations, eschew economic forecasts, derivatives, chart trends, modern portfolio theory and other fancy East-Coast talk. You do not even bother to talk to managers, just judge the facts.

These are fine tenets for the rest of us. As others have shown, you can prosper by following them. But they hardly account for the high returns usually earned by Berkshire, even allowing for one startling advantage. Under Mr Buffett, it has not paid a dividend in 30 years. What might Lord Hanson have done if he had paid no dividend?

Berkshire is not what a disciple of Mr Buffett's folksy ideas might expect. It is an insurance company backed by bonds, partly an equity investment trust and partly a conglomerate, since Mr Buffett and his partner, Charles Munger, buy entire smaller firms.

One unifying factor is that Mr Buffett claims to judge bonds and shares as business propositions, like buying a company. Quite how this applied to Mr Buffett's recent switch to bonds of relatively low yield, given his contempt for macroeconomic factors in investment decisions, will doubtless be discussed in the annual report. Nothing in the canon seems to prepare you for a foray into the spot silver market, even if it is only 2 per cent of group assets.

We do not need more people gambling on inessential instruments, Mr Buffett wrote. "What we need are investors who look at the long-term prospect for an enterprise and invest accordingly." Beneath his outer layers, Mr Buffett is a great intuitive reader of markets and risk. The silver price was depressed although demand was good and stocks running down. It was good value. By buying a fifth of annual world supply, however, he is clearly aiming to affect the market, not just judge it. The risk is higher too.

The true message of the demi-god's foray into the haunts of the moneychangers is surely the simplest one. The value investor could not find more value in equities so he moved into bonds. Now he cannot find value in bonds, so he is having to do something fancy.

# Wake-up call stirs banks into action

Bank customers can now track down forgotten accounts more easily thanks to a new system introduced by the British Bankers' Association (BBA) this week.

The move follows an increase in the number of people seeking advice on what to do about dormant accounts. Last year the Banking Ombudsman received 171 complaints about the way banks handle dormant accounts.

With many local branches closing in recent years, unearthing an old account can be difficult and customers are often confused about where to go. Under the new system customers must fill in a BBA claim form, which is available at high street banks or on the BBA Internet site at www.bankfacts.org.uk.

The form can be handed into any high street bank branch or sent direct to its head office, regardless of the branch where the account was held. The task of tracing the account then lies with the bank.

Joanna Elson, assistant director of the BBA, said: "If you are a bank customer, even if you have lost contact with your bank, the money still belongs to you. Sometimes customers leave accounts behind when they move away. Years later, banks may have moved premises and the effort needed to trace the accounts has sometimes been more than the customer is willing to undertake. For the banks this represents an unwelcome breakdown in their relationship with their customer."

Accounts are considered dormant if they have been inactive for at least a year. However, a number of accounts have been inactive since the 1930s. Some are kept open by people working abroad. Others hold small amounts belonging to customers who do not want the bother of closing the account.

In some cases dormant accounts have been forgotten altogether, often by people who have moved away.

SUSAN EMMETT



Fast asleep: but long-dormant accounts can be tracked down


# £200,000 Life Insurance for as little as 56p a day*

If you have regular bills to pay and a family to support it's understandable if you've put the issue of life insurance to the back of your mind. After all, cover can be costly, and you need money to hand.

But what if someone were able to offer you the level and quality of insurance that really makes a difference, for a daily cost that can be less than the price of a Sunday newspaper?

Then you'd have peace of mind you could afford right away.

With Term Assurance from General Accident, you can do just that. Because, for a fixed payment of only £17.00 a month (the equivalent of just 56p a day*) a General Accident Term Assurance policy can provide you with £200,000 worth of insurance for ten years. Which means you can get on with your life knowing that, if the worst were to happen, the people you care for could get on with theirs.

So don't delay any longer. Give your loved ones peace of mind by calling General Accident now, or by completing the attached coupon. We'll work out a personal illustration just for you AND send you a stylish Parker pen with our compliments and without obligation. If you become a policyholder you will be entitled to choose a further free gift - a Black and Decker Cordless Screwdriver, a Sharp Personal Data Bank or a Casio Travel Clock Radio.

We reserve the right to offer alternative gifts. This offer applies if you are aged between 20 and 55 inclusive. *This is based on a health, male non-smoker, aged 30 next birthday. The cost of cover will depend on the level and period of cover, in addition to your personal circumstances. Full written details are available on request. Any financial advice given will relate only to General Accident Life's products. General Accident Life is regulated by the Personal Investment Authority. General Accident Life Assurance Limited, 2 Rougier Street, York, YO1 1HR.

GA

General Accident

CALL FREE LINES OPEN 24 HOURS

**0500 100 200**

Send to: Term Assurance, General Accident, FREEPOST NEA 20701, Worksop S80 1BR 429/129

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms Forename(s)

Surname

Address

Postcode

Telephone No (Day) (Evening)

Date of Birth / / Smoker ☐ Non-Smoker ☐

If late. A non-smoker is a person who has not used any tobacco products in the last 12 months.

These details are required in order to give you a personalised illustration. We never make your name and address available to unconnected organisations. We will occasionally tell you by post or phone about other products or services offered by ourselves and associated GA Group companies. Tick the box ☐ if you would prefer not to receive this information. For your security your call with General Accident may be recorded and may be monitored. Registered in England No. 226740. General Accident Life Assurance Limited, 2 Rougier Street, York, YO1 1HR.



MURRAY INVESTMENT TRUST PEP

MURRAY JOHNSTONE

# With so many PEPs to choose from, why choose ours?

With roots dating back to 1907, our astute investment expertise has made us the considered choice for investors seeking a good return on their money. At Murray Johnstone we have a tradition of international investment and our investment Trusts range from wholly UK based to diverse international stock holdings.

There are six 'PEPable' Murray Investment Trusts to choose from, offering income, capital growth or a combination of both. Four of them qualify as £6,000 PEPs. The worldwide exposure of the other two means that each year you can invest a maximum of £1,500 in either, with the balance of your PEP allowance invested in any of our other qualifying trusts. You can invest in lump sums or make regular monthly contributions from as little as £100.

Murray Investment Trusts have a good track record. Murray International Trust is consistently ranked Number 1 in the International Income Growth Sector over 5 and 10 years*. £6,000 invested in Murray International 10 years ago would have grown to £28,864**, compared to £12,247 in a Building Society 'high interest' 90 day savings account. And of course, within our PEP, these returns are delivered free of income and capital gains tax, while charges are kept to a minimum.

Our Client Relations staff will be happy to give you full details of all our Investment Trusts and PEP options, plus our schemes for regular saving and monthly income. Call them now on 0800 289 978 for all the information you need to make an informed choice. Then choose Murray Johnstone.

1

TALK TO MURRAY JOHNSTONE. THEN DECIDE.

CALL FREE NOW ON 0800 289 978

TO: MURRAY JOHNSTONE, FREEPOST GW5113, GLASGOW G1 2BR. PLEASE SEND ME MORE INFORMATION ABOUT MURRAY INVESTMENT TRUST PEPS ☐ TT 0702

Name (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms) _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

THE INFORMATION YOU PROVIDE MAY BE USED TO INFORM YOU OF OTHER PRODUCTS AND SERVICES FROM MURRAY JOHNSTONE. IF YOU DO NOT WISH TO RECEIVE THIS INFORMATION, PLEASE TICK THIS BOX ☐

MURRAY JOHNSTONE

SCOTTISH INTERNATIONAL INVESTORS

Murray Johnstone Limited (Regulated by IMRO), 7 West Nile Street, Glasgow G1 2PX. Telephone 0141 226 3131. Fax 0141 248 5420. Email: pjustice@murrayj.com

* Source: AITC. ** Reuters Hindsight. £6000 invested, close to close, gross income reinvested to 31.12.97. The respective 5 year figures are £11,809 and £7,393. These figures are notional since Murray International has only been available as a £6000 PEP since 1995. Remember the price of shares and income from them can go down as well as up. Past performance is not necessarily a guide to the future. Investors may not get back the amount they originally invested. Existing tax levels and reliefs may change and the value of reliefs depends on personal circumstances. Changes in rates of exchange may cause the value of investment to go up or down. In particular, for PEPs, the Government has announced plans to introduce a new tax-privileged vehicle, the Individual Savings Account, but have yet to confirm what its benefits will be enjoyed by such new accounts, or what arrangements will be put in place for switching from PEPs. You should remember that equity investments are different from savings in a Building Society, which provides a capital guarantee and are easily accessible.

# IF YOU'RE GOING TO BUY A PENSION, MAKE SURE IT'S ONE OF THE BEST ON THE MARKET.

It's not always easy to work out which pension company you should choose, but *The Independent* recently used a system put forward in an Office of Fair Trading discussion document to review the market.

This simple rating system allows people to make a straight comparison between pension plans by giving each one a series of ratings on a scale of A+ to C-.

| Company | Ratings - early, mid and final stages taking into account charges, transfer values and persistency |
|---|---|
| Equitable Life | A+A+A+ |
| Marks & Spencer | A+AA+ |
| Scottish Widows | AAA |
| Virgin | AAA |
| Alliance & Leicester | AAB |
| Standard Life | AAA |
| Legal & General | BAA |
| Friends Provident | BBA |
| Clerical Medical | ABB |
| Commercial Union | BBA |
| National Mutual | BBA |
| Norwich Union | BBB |
| NPI | BBA |
| Scottish Mutual | BBA |
| AXA Equity & Law | BBA |
| General Accident | BBA |
| Scottish Life | BBC |
| Midland | BBB |
| Eagle Star | BBC |
| Scottish Amicable | BBB |
| Natwest | C-BA |
| Sun Life | CCB |
| J Rothschild | CCB |
| Scottish Equitable | BBB |
| Abbey National | CCB |
| Black Horse | C-CA |
| Allied Dunbar | CCC |
| TSB | CCC- |
| Skandia | BCC |
| Barclays | CCC |
| Guardian | C-C-C- |
| Lincoln | |

* 30 year plans with premiums of £200 per month, with projected growth of 9 per cent per annum
Note - the correlation between the estimated average plan return and ABC ratings is less close when plans only allow paid up values after a period, e.g. after a year with Abbey National and Barclays
Note - because of lack of data some substantial providers, eg. the Prudential, could not be included.

Source: The Independent, 13 December 1997

The rating takes into account charges, transfer values and the proportion of people who decide not to continue with a chosen plan.

Their survey shows one company head and shoulders above the rest, with a perfect score.

## WHY DOES THE EQUITABLE LIFE SCORE SO WELL?

The final value of your pension depends on two things:
First, how much of your money disappears in charges before it can be invested.
Second, how well the balance is invested.

## LOW COSTS MEAN LOW CHARGES

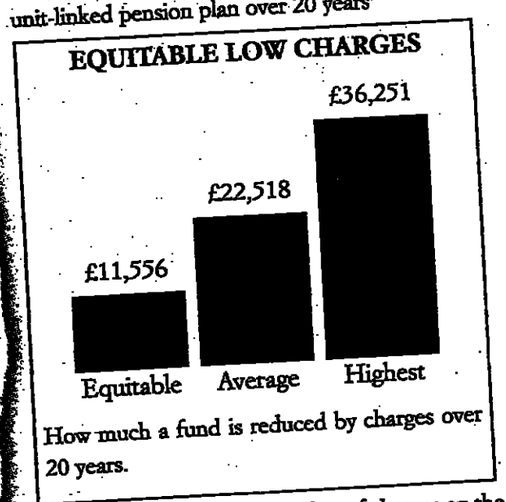
As a mutual life company, the oldest in the world in fact, we don't have any shareholders to take a slice of the profits, nor have we ever paid commission to third parties. And we keep all our internal expenses to an absolute minimum.

Three good reasons why we are renowned for our low costs.

It's also why an annual *Planned Savings'* survey in October 1997 once again shows The Equitable Life as having the lowest ratio of expenses to premium income of all companies surveyed across the UK.

What is important is that we pass these savings on to our clients in the form of unusually low charges, so more of your money can be invested for the future.

The chart below shows the effect that different companies' charges will have on a £200 a month unit-linked pension plan over 20 years




The above chart shows the effect of charges on the projected open market option funds as at 1 July 1997 for new style unit-linked personal pension plans for a man aged 45 retiring at age 65. Monthly contributions of £200. Assumed annual growth rate 9%.*

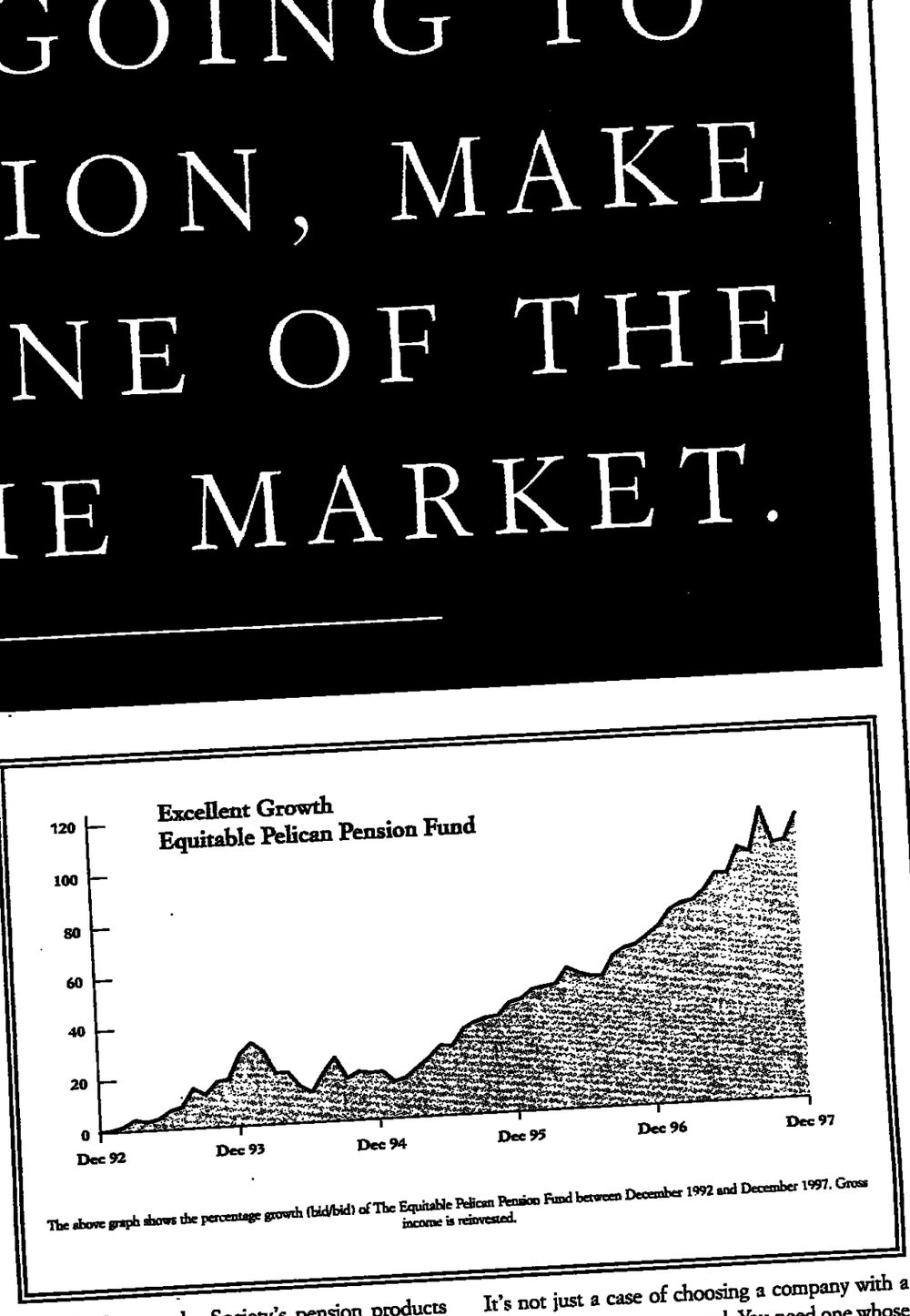
Because we charge almost half the industry average, the value of your fund could be increased by thousands of pounds. And that's before any difference in investment performance is taken into account.

## STRONG AND CONSISTENT TRACK RECORD

If you had been investing £200 per month in our popular Pelican Pension Fund, a general UK equity fund, for the last five years, your plan would now be worth £17,441. That's well ahead of the £15,616 average for UK equity funds.* The payout on 26 January 1998 would have been £17,997.

Please note that past performance is no guarantee of future performance.

The value of units and the income from them can fall as well as rise.




The above graph shows the percentage growth (bid/bid) of The Equitable Pelican Pension Fund between December 1992 and December 1997. Gross income is reinvested.

Contributions to the Society's pension products are invested in its pension business fund. Since July 1997, pension funds can no longer recover tax credits on the dividends from UK equities, but they continue to enjoy freedom from tax on capital gains and other income.

When choosing a pension provider, it makes sense to look for a consistently strong performer. After all, almost every pension company has some sort of success story to tell - perhaps one of their funds went through a brief purple patch at some stage. But how often have they been able to repeat that?

According to a recent survey in *Money Management*, 72% of our funds were above-average performers over 5 and 10 years.* Our wide range of unit-linked funds also means that you can choose to link your investment to particular markets and sectors should you wish including, for example, UK Index Tracking, Gilt & Fixed Interest, High Income, Guaranteed Equity, Property, European, North American, Far Eastern, Ethical and Smaller Companies.

*Money Management, October 1997

## MAXIMUM FLEXIBILITY

Not everyone is in a position to contribute regularly. And many can't be sure when they will retire, so they want to be able to change their retirement date if necessary - without penalty.

No problem.

With an Equitable pension, you are free to increase or decrease your contributions at any time. And you can bring your retirement date forward, or delay it, as you choose. Unlike some companies, all without penalty.

## IN SHORT

When it comes to pension planning, you can't start too soon. The longer you leave it, the worse off you could be when you retire. But although time is of the essence, it is not the whole story. You will also need to choose your pension provider very carefully.

It's not just a case of choosing a company with a consistent investment record. You need one whose charges will not cancel out much of the benefit of that investment growth. And because you can never predict your future circumstances, you need a pension plan that will give you all the flexibility you could need.

We believe you need look no further than The Equitable Life. Our record speaks for itself.

For more details of our low-cost, high-performance pension plans, telephone us on 0990 38 48 58 or complete the coupon below.

www.equitable.co.uk

FOR YOUR SECURITY YOUR TELEPHONE CALL MAY BE RECORDED
INFORMATION/ADVICE WILL ONLY BE GIVEN
ON EQUITABLE GROUP PRODUCTS
REGULATED BY THE PERSONAL INVESTMENT AUTHORITY
THE EQUITABLE LIFE, FREEPOST, WALTON STREET, AYLESBURY,
BUCKINGHAMSHIRE HP21 7BR

To: The Equitable Life, FREEPOST, Walton Street, Aylesbury, Bucks HP21 7BR.

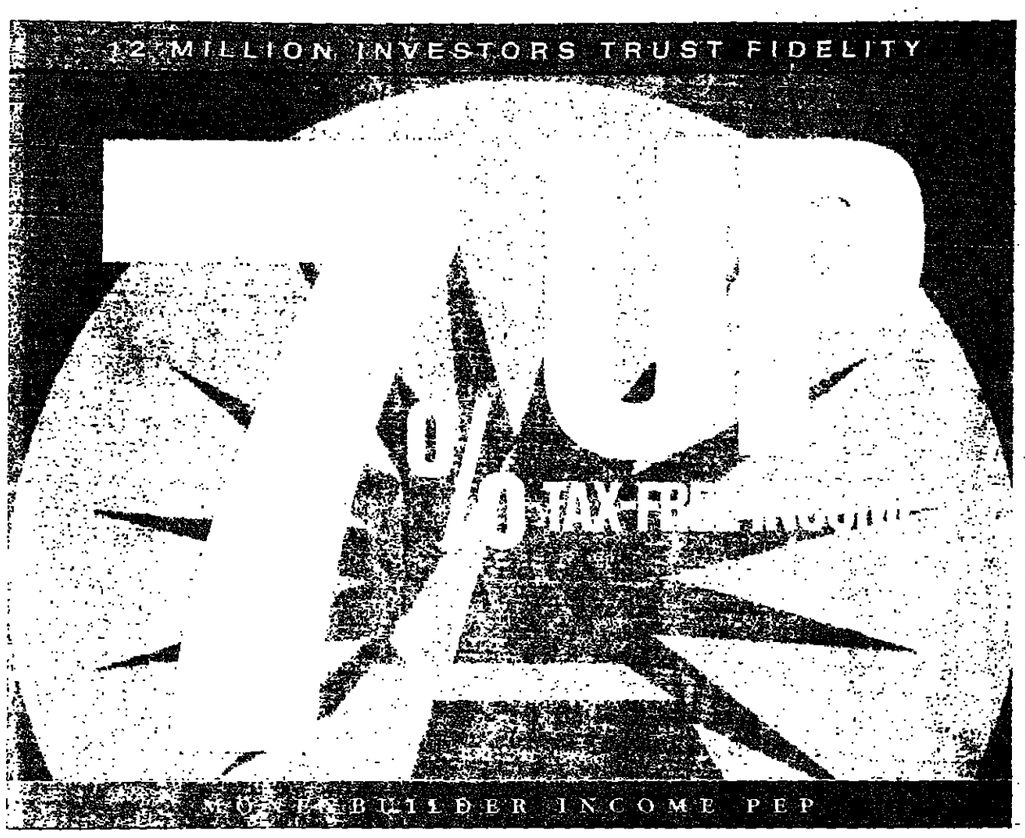
I would welcome details on The Equitable's pension plans.
I am self employed ☐
I am an employee not in a company pension scheme ☐

TMCB8B

NAME (Mr/Mrs/Miss) _____
ADDRESS _____
_____
_____
_____ Postcode _____
Tel: (Office) _____
Tel: (Home) _____
Date of Birth _____

We guarantee that no company outside The Equitable and its subsidiaries will receive these details. If, however, you would prefer to receive no further information from us, please tick this box ☐

**The Equitable Life**
You profit from our principles




Looking for a good, tax-free rate of return? Then here's a refreshing thought. Our MoneyBuilder Income PEP currently offers a tax-free income of 7% p.a.*

And because it invests primarily in corporate bonds, it's a lower risk investment than traditional equity-based PEPs.

We also research companies more thoroughly than anyone for security and risk before we invest in their bonds.

Every year, our fund managers and analysts make over 46,000 contacts all around the world, handpicking investment opportunities.

That's why our PEPs are so stockpickin' good.

But we don't just stop there. Like all our MoneyBuilders, this PEP comes without any entry or exit charges.†

Its annual management fee is also one of the lowest you'll find. And you can withdraw your funds at any time.

No surprise that all this is offered by the world's No.1 fund manager.

So call us now, send off the coupon, or speak to your IFA. And find out about a PEP with a bit more sparkle.

ISA FRIENDLY **At Fidelity, our pledge is that you will be able to transfer Fidelity PEPs into the Fidelity ISA easily and free of any conversion charges.**

To: Fidelity Investments, PO Box 88, Tonbridge, Kent TN11 9DZ. Phone 0800 41 41 33. Please send me information on Fidelity's MoneyBuilder Income PEP. We will not disclose any information outside the Fidelity Marketing Group.

Name_____

Address_____

Postcode_____ Tel_____ TMR8

PEP/ISA HOTLINE 9AM TO 6PM, 7 DAYS
0800 41 41 33
www.fidelity.co.uk

Fidelity Investments™

NO. 1 IN THE WORLD

*Running yield as at 13/1/98. Gross redemption yield +6.22%†. Other than the effect of the bid-offer spread, which should not exceed 0.75%. Reference to the range refers to the Fidelity MoneyBuilder products. Resources and assets are as at 31/12/97, and include resources of FMR Corp, a US company and its affiliates. Past performance is no guarantee of future returns. The value of investments and income from them can go down as well as up and an investor may not get back the amount invested. Tax credits on equity dividends will be reclaimable within a PEP until April 1999, when the new Individual Savings Accounts are to be launched. PEPs will cease to exist in October 1999. Transfers to ISAs may be subject to a maximum limit. The value of tax savings and eligibility to invest in a PEP or ISA will depend upon individual circumstances and all tax rules may change in the future. Fidelity only provides information about its products and will not give investment advice. Issued by Fidelity Investments Ltd, regulated by IMRO and the Personal Investment Authority. CR2294


**Patrick Collinson** on the impending transfer of Peps into Isas



*The passing of the investment baton from Peps to Isas may not be as trouble-free as many Pep providers are claiming*

# What price a smooth changeover?

How much will it cost to switch your Pep into the new individual savings account (Isa) next year? Transfers into Isas may be free, but annual charges could jump by up to a third.

Current proposals are for Isas to come into force in April 1999, with investors allowed a six-month window to transfer their Peps into the new vehicle or lose their tax-free benefits. The Government also announced a £50,000 lifetime cap on Isa investments, a proposal that the Pep industry is fighting to have withdrawn.

One problem is that the final shape of Isas is not likely to be known until the Budget on March 17. Yet most investors will not want to leave their 1997-98 Pep choice until March 17 and then have only days before the end of the tax year.

Many of the large Pep providers have already stepped in with guarantees that they will not impose charges for switching an existing Pep into an Isa. However, there are significant providers who say they cannot give such a pledge, and almost no one is guaranteeing what will happen to charges once the Isa is up and running.

M&G was first with an "Isability" pledge for its investors. Tessa Murray, M&G spokeswoman, said: "There will be no penalty for transferring and we promise there will be no sneaky little charges."

Fidelity, Schroders, Jupiter, L&G and Gartmore are all making similar pledges. Paul Kafka, executive director at Fidelity, said: "If, when it comes to the transfer, you have, say, £10,000 in our Pep, our objective is that you will have exactly the same amount after the transfer."

However, Perpetual and Credit Suisse say they are unable to give a cast-iron guarantee of a free transfer. Roger Cornick, Perpetual marketing manager, said: "We have made no public utterance in the way M&G has, and we are a little mystified as to how other organisations can when we still don't know what the Isa rules will be."

Ian Chimes, Credit Suisse managing director, said: "It will cost money to set up, register, de-register and create the 20 per cent cash and insurance elements if that's what an investor wants. It can't be done at nil cost."

Investors also need to be aware that a "free transfer" is only likely with an existing provider. A transfer of winnings from one to another could involve an exit charge from the outgoing provider and an initial charge by the new provider.

Taking independent advice on a move could also involve extra costs. At worst, investors could become victims of "churning" by salesmen obtaining a commission by switching a Pep from one provider to another.

Figures for how much the transfer from Pep to Isa will cost the investment industry range from £200 million to £500 million. The big Pep providers say they are willing to absorb this cost, but could investors see the cost recouped in higher annual charges?

M&G's Ms Murray said: "You can't predict what annual charges will be. We have already told the Inland Revenue that the complexity of Isas in their current form will cause administration costs to rise about 30 per cent."

Gartmore Fund Managers takes a similar line. Lewis McNaught, managing director, said: "Our commitment is to a free transfer. We cannot guarantee what the cost will look like once the transfer has taken place."

But Virgin Direct says that warnings about higher charges are a spokescreen by traditional investment managers without modern administration systems that can cope with the new regime. Rowan Gormley, managing director, said: "We are not convinced that Isas will cost a lot more to manage."


The Friends Provident With Profit Bond

Invest £3,000, get 6.5% guaranteed minimum bonus*

Invest £15,000 or more, get 8.25% guaranteed minimum bonus*

Invest £100,000 or more, get 10% guaranteed minimum bonus*
*Subject to deductions below.

**It comes with a first year carrot.**

The Friends Provident With Profit Bond gives you steady growth potential without exposure to the daily ups and downs of the stockmarket.

You can invest as little as £3,000, but the more you invest the higher your guaranteed minimum bonus in the first year – from 6.5% to as high as 10%.

And you can cash in part of your With Profit Bond to provide a regular "income".

If you're looking to make your money work harder, get on the Blue Line now, call 0800 00 00 80.

*Subject to an administration charge of 1% a year taken monthly for the first six years. A reduced allocation rate of 98.5% applies to investments of less than £5,000. A discontinuance deduction will apply to encashments in the first five years. A Market Value Adjustment may apply in some circumstances.

**Get on the Blue Line**

We're open 8 to 8 Weekdays, 10 to 4 Weekends. Call 0800 00 00 80.

FRIENDS PROVIDENT

THE VALUE OF THE PLAN IS NOT GUARANTEED AND CAN GO UP AND DOWN DEPENDING ON INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE. THE PERFORMANCE DEPENDS ON THE PROFITS FRIENDS PROVIDENT MAKES AND ON THE DECISION IT TAKES AS TO THEIR DISTRIBUTION.
FRIENDS PROVIDENT THE BLUE LINE LIMITED IS A REPRESENTATIVE ONLY OF THE FRIENDS PROVIDENT MARKETING GROUP WHICH IS REGULATED BY THE PERSONAL INVESTMENT AUTHORITY.
YOUR CALL MAY BE RECORDED FOR YOUR SECURITY.



e%perts

Over 500,000 Personal Equity Plan investors trust Halifax to make them a tax-free return on more than £2 billion of their money.

To find out more about how your savings could benefit from our expertise, just call us today for your free PEP Pack.

CALL NOW FOR YOUR **PEP** PACK

0845 6

CALLS CHARGED AT LOCAL RATE

HALIFAX
Get a little extra help.

Alternatively, complete the coupon and ... on the Halifax PEP and other Halifax ...

Title | Forename(s)
Surname | Date of Birth
Address
Postcode
Daytime tel no. | Evening tel no.

*Gross nominal rates to both single investors and general PEP providers. Halifax (Int) Trust Management Limited, Registered in England No. 2783106, Registered Office: Trinity Road, Halifax, West Yorkshire HX1 2RG. Promoted by

# Ugly sister to join Tessa ball

Fixed-rate Tessa has long lived in the shadow of her more glamorous sister variable Tessa. But with the economy predicted to slow down and only 14 months to go before tax-exempt savings accounts (Tessas) are replaced by the new independent savings account (Isa), it is time to cast aside sibling rivalry.

Although Tessas will no longer be on sale from April 1999, Tessa holders will be able to continue to pay into their accounts until they mature and move the capital into Isas. The transfer will count towards the proposed £50,000 lifetime limit on Isa contributions, but the accumulated interest cannot be transferred.

More than 4.5 million people have squirrelled away nearly £30 billion into Tessas since their launch seven years ago. And in last year's climate of rising interest rates — there have been five since the election — most savers opted for the better deals offered by variable Tessas.

Investors can benefit from interest rates of up to 7.9 per cent on the most popular variable Tessas. Last month Legal & General launched its Tessa at 7.9 per cent, joining a string of providers paying the same rate.

With such tempting rates on offer, few investors take any notice of fixed-rate Tessas which pay lower rates. NatWest Bank's fixed-rate product, top of the list from *MoneyFacts*, the financial information provider, only pays 7.45 per cent.

However, Eddie George, the Governor of the Bank of England, has suggested that the economy will slow down. Many economists believe that interest rates have peaked and will drop later this year.

In the longer term, some experts argue that UK entry into economic and monetary union in the next Parliament would also mean a drop in interest rates as British rates fall in line with Europe. Interest rates are currently set at 3.3 per cent in Germany and just over 3 per cent in France and Belgium. Only Italy and the Irish Republic have similar rates at 6 per cent. Tessa savers, who have their money locked up for five years, will be particularly affected if British rates do drop to continental levels in the millennium.

Gerry Gray at Walsh Lucas & Co, the York-based financial adviser, said: "People are well advised to take out Tessas while stocks last. I would recommend fixed rather than variable. Interest rates are predicted to fall later this year and if we join EMU we could be looking at interest rates of 3 or 4 per cent.

"We are trying to look five years ahead. The last three years could be quite crucial for Tessa holders. Go fixed, even if the rates are low compared with some of the Tessas available at the moment."

**■ Tessa rules:**
A Tessa is a savings account that earns tax-free interest as long as money is locked in for a full five years. A total of £9,000 can be put into a Tessa over five years. A maximum of £3,000 can be put into a Tessa in the first year, followed by £1,800 in the three years after that and £600 in the final year. At the end of the five years, you can currently roll your capital over into a follow-up Tessa sometimes known as a Tessa Mark 2 and carry on earning interest. But this option will not be available once the Isa is launched.

Top of the *MoneyFacts* list for first-time variable Tessas are Skipton BS, Yorkshire BS, Legal & General, Melton Mowbray BS and Kent Reliance BS. All pay 7.9 per cent, although the notice period varies.

Savers can benefit from up to 8 per cent in a follow-on variable Tessa with Yorkshire BS and Leeds & Holbeck BS.

Fixed-rate Tessas offer lower rates. The best deal comes from NatWest which pays 7.45 per cent. By contrast, Abbey National pays only 6.7 per cent.

SUSAN EMMETT



NOBBY CLARK

As the last dance for Tessa is called, the sisters need to cast aside sibling rivalry and compete on friendly terms


## The Index-Tracking PEP

**WHAT MAKES LEGAL & GENERAL'S FTSE ALL-SHARE INDEX-TRACKING PEP OUTSTANDING VALUE FOR MONEY?**

A glance at the table will show that – since its launch over two years ago – this Index-Tracking PEP from Legal & General has proved that it offers PEP investors superb value for money.

It follows the FTSE All-Share Index. This Index reflects the performance of the entire stock market, so it reduces the risk of being over-exposed to shares which under-perform and lessen your return. In fact, a lump sum of £6,000 invested in the Legal & General Index-Tracking PEP at launch would now be worth £9,434* compared to just £8,738* in the average UK Income & Growth Trust.

With no initial charges deducted, more of your money is invested at the outset for maximum growth potential, there are no withdrawal fees and with an annual management charge of 0.5% – the value for money is outstanding.

So make the most of today's opportunities. For further details (including information on our monthly saving option) call now or visit our web site at www.LandG.com

NO INITIAL CHARGES

0.5% ANNUAL MANAGEMENT CHARGE

NO WITHDRAWAL FEE

INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE SINCE LAUNCH* NOV 95 TO FEB 98

| | ANNUAL CHARGE | GROWTH |
|---|---|---|
| Legal & General | 0.50% | 57.24% |
| Dresdner RCM | 1.00% | 56.71% |
| Virgin | 1.00% | 56.71% |
| Gartmore | 1.00% | 55.59% |
| Average UK Income & Growth Trust | — | 45.64% |

**The All-Share Tracking PEP that performs the best**

NO COST LEGAL & GENERAL ISA CONVERSION †

*Find out more now – phone free 0500 11 66 22*

FREEPHONE 8am TO 8pm WEEKDAYS 9am TO 5pm WEEKENDS. PLEASE QUOTE REF: C4DL08

For your protection and to enable us to deal with any queries that may arise calls will usually be recorded and randomly monitored.

YES – I would like more information about the Legal & General Index-Tracking PEP.
Post to: Legal & General (Direct) Limited, FREEPOST SWC0467, Cardiff CF1 1YW.

Surname (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms) Forenames

Address

Postcode Date of birth / /

Tel. No: Home Tel. No: Work

If you already have any PEP investment, please tick here ☐. C4DL08

We may telephone you to make sure information requested has arrived safely. Now and then, we may tell you about other products or services offered by the Legal & General Group of companies that we believe may be of interest to you. If you would prefer not to receive this carefully selected information, please tick here ☐

Legal & General

†Subject to Government regulation. *Source: Micropal/LGDM, on an offer to bid basis based on all PEP charges with gross income re-invested from 01.11.95 (since launch) to 03.02.98. Past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. From 06.04.99 tax credits will no longer be able to be reclaimed by PEPs investing in equity based unit trusts. Both capital and income values may go down as well as up and you may not get back the amount invested. All comparisons of cost apply to PEPs investing wholly in unit trusts. Full written details are available on request. All statements are correct as at 03.02.98. The Government published a consultative document in December 1997 on proposals for Individual Savings Accounts (ISAs) to be launched in April 1999. The terms and limits for converting an existing PEP into an ISA are being considered as part of the consultation. Legal & General (Direct) Limited. Registered in England No. 2702080. Registered Office: Temple Court, 11 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4N 4TP Representative only of the Legal & General marketing group, members of which are regulated by the Personal Investment Authority and IMRO for the purposes of recommending, advising on and selling life assurance and investment products bearing Legal & General's name.



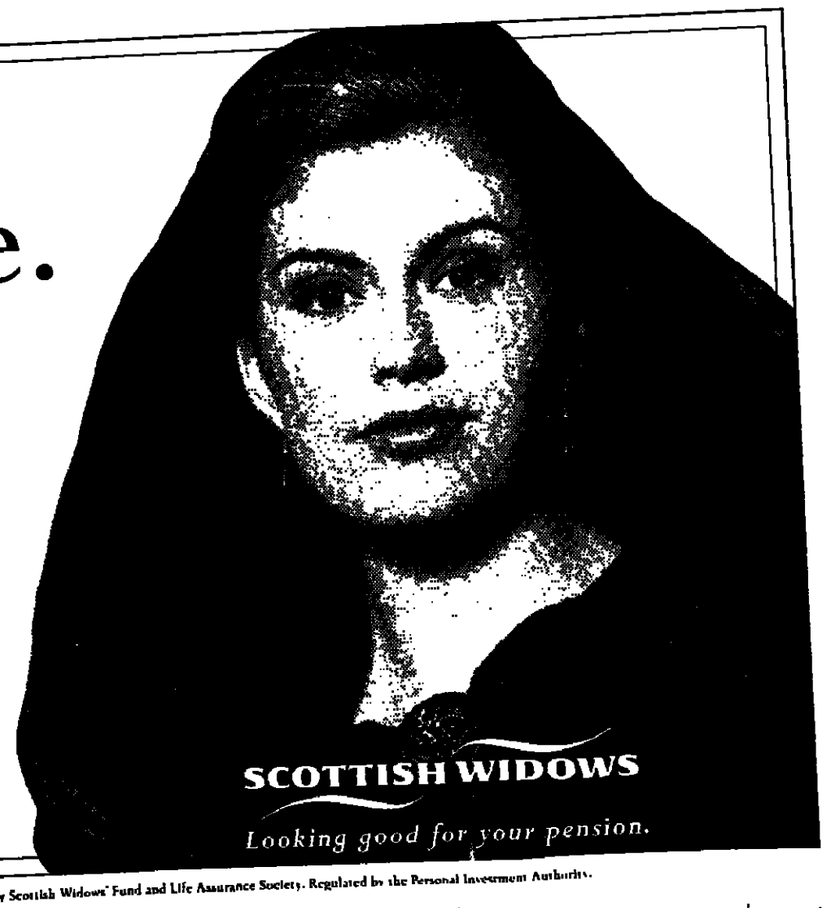
# Pensions by phone.

You can pick up the phone and get pensions information or advice and even set up a plan, quickly and without fuss.

*Call, 8am-10pm, 7 days a week quoting ref: 2888915*

**0345 6789 10**

*or talk to your Independent Financial Adviser.*



SCOTTISH WIDOWS

*Looking good for your pension.*

For your protection, your calls to Scottish Widows may be recorded or monitored and information or advice will only be provided on Scottish Widows products. Issued by Scottish Widows' Fund and Life Assurance Society. Regulated by the Personal Investment Authority.

# Cover for risky clients

**A new insurance agency takes 'a very dangerous class of business' that others will not touch, says Marianne Curphey**

TONY WHITE



Simon Johnson will help rock stars and people up to 90 years old get life cover

Choosing to live fast — or dangerously — does not necessarily mean that you will die young, but most insurers are not prepared to give you the benefit of the doubt. For rock stars who indulge in drugs, racing drivers who push their cars to the limit or deep-sea divers who have just seconds to dash from diving bell to decompression chamber, arranging life insurance can be extremely difficult.

People who are obese or who smoke heavily have, for some time, been able to buy pension annuities from selected insurers, such as the Stalwart Group, but if you suffer from ill health, are recovering from a heart attack or are very old, buying cover has previously been hard.

Now a former insurance broker has come up with the idea of offering cover to people who may have only a few years to live. Simon Johnson, a former name at Lloyd's, has set up an agency to handle what he describes as "a very dangerous class of business".

These are people in high-risk occupations — such as racing drivers, rock stars and steeplejacks — and those whom the insurance industry describes as "very medically substandard risks", including people who have had transplants or heart attacks or are recovering from leukaemia or brain cancer, as well as those excluded for some other medical reason.

One client, a 25-year-old in the entertainment business, has had drug problems and has recently come out of rehabilitation. He needs life cover, but most conventional insurers would turn him down, so he has arranged a year's life cover, up to a maximum of £300,000, that excludes death from suicide or as a direct result of substance abuse. Cover, however, does not come cheap. His premium is £15,000 for a year.

Mr Johnson, managing director of an underwriting manager known as Pulse (Professional Underwriters for Life and Special Expenses), said: "For most insurers, this is a very dangerous class of business to underwrite. We are talking about giving quotes for people up to the age of 90, compared with the industry standard of 72."

Premiums are at least two and a half times the industry standard, and can go much higher. Nor are applicants likely to be offered life insurance for 15-year and 25-year terms that most insurers operate. Instead, policies are underwritten for between one and five years, and renewed after the applicant has undergone a full medical check-up.

Mr Johnson, who was a Lloyd's underwriter for 12 years and a Lloyd's broker, believes that his company is the only one to offer such cover. The policies are sold via independent financial advisers and the cover is underwritten by two Lloyd's syndicates, Crowe Life and Kiln Life.

"We have found a niche market and since we opened for business at the beginning of the year we have sold £550,000 worth of premiums," Mr Johnson said.

Another company that specialises in impaired-life insurance is Lutine Assurance Services. Claire Duffin, an underwriter with it, said that no medical conditions were excluded from cover, but individual cases were sometimes turned down. "We consider people for insurance after we have seen their medical report," she said.

Life assurance is often required when taking out a mortgage, because it provides a lump sum payment to your family to cover the cost of the loan after your death. Life assurance is also important to people who might have a big bill for inheritance tax if they died within seven years of passing assets to members of their family.

It is to guard against inheritance tax bills that very elderly people might want insurance cover. Pulse arranged cover for one woman of 84 who wanted a policy that would pay £60,000 towards such a bill. She had no immediate medical problems and the annual premium was £12,000.

Compare this with the £2,000-a-year premium charged to a man of 52 who had a recent heart attack followed by triple heart bypass surgery in April 1993. He needed £100,000 mortgage protection and his policy obyers him for five years.

A man aged 36 who has an enlarged liver and has had a recent biopsy has further complications that need to be treated. He applied for £100,000 mortgage protection and Pulse arranged a one-year policy, which will be reviewed once his treatment has been completed. His premium is £3,000 for the year, or £250 a month.

Penny Orr-Ewing, a GP and independent financial adviser specialising in medical insurance, believes that most insurers have not taken the medical advances of the past decade into account. "Underwriters and actuaries have been slow to respond to new drug treatments and medical advances in what are termed chronic conditions," she said. "In addition, it has become more difficult for people with impaired-life conditions to arrange a mortgage because loans sold these days tend to be on a repayment rather than endowment mortgage basis. Lenders often require people to take out a term policy and critical illness policy to ensure the loan can be repaid."

As examples of the conservatism of the insurance industry, she cites kidney problems and thalassaemia, the treatment of which has been revolutionised by medical advances. "Ten years ago, if you had thalassaemia, your life expectancy was around 40 years old. Now people with even the worst cases are expected to live until they are 60, and yet some insurers will not consider cover at all and others write policies based on death at 40. Hardly any will consider offering life cover to thalassaemia sufferers.

Dr O'Brien said: "It has been possible in the past to negotiate special cover if you know the underwriters or actuaries. In the case of very serious medical conditions, the premiums will be higher, which means the commission is likely to be higher, too."


YOUR PENSION WILL TAKE OFF BECAUSE OF WHAT WE DON'T.

No penalties, no middleman. Low charges.



0845 3000 333

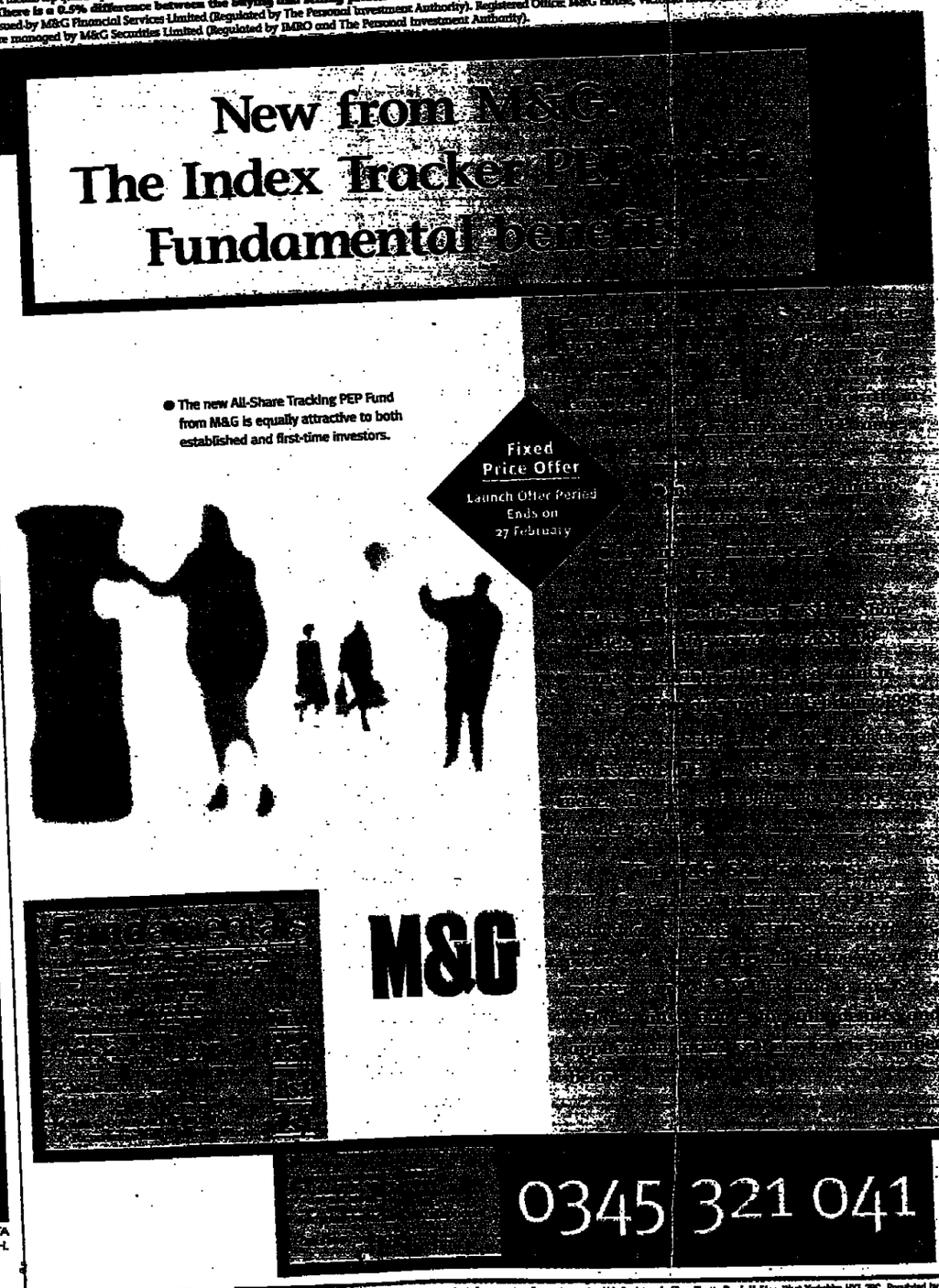
DIRECT LINE PENSIONS

The value of the investment can fall as well as rise and past performance is not a guide to future performance. Direct Line Life Insurance Company Limited, 258 St Vincent Street, Glasgow G2 5SR. Tel: 0845 3000 333. Registered in England No 2199286, Registered Office: 3 Edridge Road, Croydon CR9 1AG. Direct Line Life Insurance Company Limited markets only its own products and offers investment advice only about its own products. Direct Line Life Insurance Company Limited is regulated by the Personal Investment Authority. For your added security all telephone calls are recorded. Direct Line and the red telephone on wheels are the trademarks of Direct Line Insurance plc and used with its permission.



In the July Budget, the Chancellor announced that tax exempt savings schemes will change in April 1999. As a result you may not be able to continue to enjoy the considerable benefits offered by a PEP. However, the Government has announced that a new tax privileged vehicle is to be introduced – the Individual Savings Account, or ISA for short. Full details have yet to be confirmed and we are currently in discussion with the Government as to the future implications for PEPs. The value to you of the tax benefits will depend on your own circumstances. Past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. The price of investments and the income from them can go down as well as up, you may not get back as much as you invest. M&G do not offer investment advice or make any recommendations regarding investments - we only promote the packaged products and services of the M&G marketing group. †Source: Micropal, 1st means top quartile performance to 1.1.98, gross income reinvested for Blue Chip over 5 years and for Managed Income since launch on 1.3.93 and Corporate Bond since launch on 2.5.94. *There is a 0.5% difference between the buying and selling prices.
Issued by M&G Financial Services Limited (Regulated by The Personal Investment Authority). Registered Office: M&G House, Victoria Road, Chelmsford CM1 1FB. M&G Unit Trusts are managed by M&G Securities Limited (Regulated by IMRO and The Personal Investment Authority).

New from M&G.
The Index Tracker PEP.
Fundamental benefits.



● The new All-Share Tracking PEP Fund from M&G is equally attractive to both established and first-time investors.

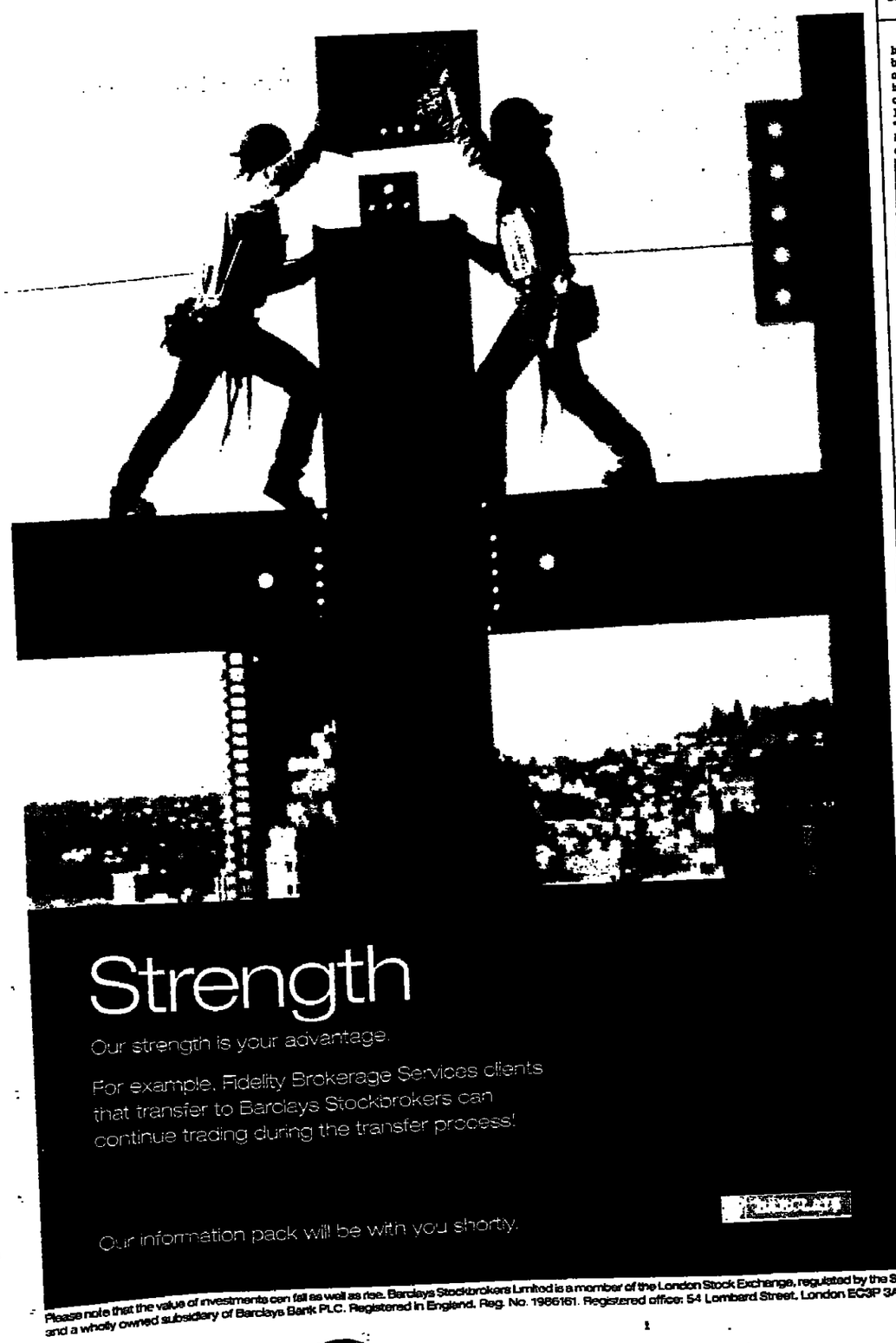
Fixed Price Offer
Launch Offer Period Ends on 27 February

M&G

0345 321 041

*Source: market values in both stocks narrower and general PEP searches. Holders Unit Trust Management Limited, Registered in England No. 2752058. Registered office: Trinity Park, Bridge, West Yorkshire HX1 2RS. Registered by





Strength

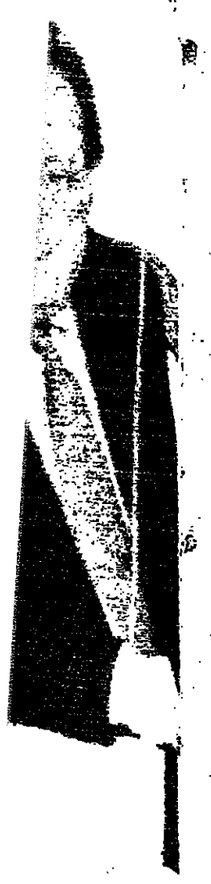
Our strength is your advantage.

For example, Fidelity Brokerage Services clients that transfer to Barclays Stockbrokers can continue trading during the transfer process!

Our information pack will be with you shortly.

Please note that the value of investments can fall as well as rise. Barclays Stockbrokers Limited is a member of the London Stock Exchange, regulated by the SFA and a wholly owned subsidiary of Barclays Bank PLC. Registered in England. Reg. No. 1986161. Registered office: 54 Lombard Street, London EC3P 3AH.

L MAY BE RECORDED FOR YOUR SECURITY.



# Commodities find their silver lining

Buy silver. Who needs gold bars when they are languishing at bargain basement prices? That would seem to be the message emerging after the latest move by Warren Buffett, whose Berkshire Hathaway group this week revealed it has stocked up on $1 billion of the metal, roughly a fifth of the world's supply.

The rise in the price of silver over the past few months, has left the performance of both platinum and gold looking distinctly dull.

In July 1997 when Mr Buffett, often referred to the Sage of Omaha after his spectacular stock-picking successes, began buying silver the price had fallen to just over $4 per ounce. News of Mr Buffett's buying helped prices to climb to a nine-year high of just over $7 per ounce.

Such price rises might sound very attractive to private investors, prompting them to jump on the silver bandwagon as it rolls past. But buying silver now in the hope of either making a quick killing or to provide a small nest egg for retirement could prove to be a costly mistake.

**Buying silver in the hope of making a quick killing may prove to be a costly mistake**

Silver, just as gold, tin, cocoa or pork bellies is a commodity that is traded on world markets. While equities quoted on the stock market may see a fair degree of price fluctuation, such changes pale in comparison with the volatility often seen in commodities trading.

Dealing in commodities may offer high rewards, but it is an activity that most private investors avoid, not least because it is a short-term rather than long-term investment strategy.

"It is such a high-risk strategy that I would dissuade an investor interested in commodities," Amanda Davidson, of Holden Meehan, the independent financial adviser, said.

Commodities fall into a number of categories. Precious metals, which include silver and gold, and base metals, which include tin, aluminium and copper. Cocoa, coffee, sugar and orange juice are among those classified as soft commodities, while oil and gas are traded as energy commodities. Grain commodities include wheat, and soyabeans, while meat spans live cattle to pork bellies.

Most commodities trading is through futures contracts. Investors agree to buy or sell a specified amount of a product at some future date and at a fixed price. The movement of the price in the intervening time determines how much of a loss or profit can be made, by buying or selling your futures contract before the due date.

It is the level of unknowns that make commodities trading so volatile. While levels of demand for certain raw materials may be estimated to a degree, it is often factors such as extremes of weather or a natural disaster that will impact on prices.

This year for example, the impact of El Niño is expected to damage cane sugar crops and force up the price of raw sugar by 9 per cent.

On top of which wars, currency fluctuations and economic cycles have to be factored into the price equation. For investors determined to experience the thrills and spills of commodities there are a number of options. If silver or gold looks tempting then buying the raw material in the shape of ingots or krugerrands is the most direct option. Alternatively look at quoted companies whose business is extracting and selling commodities such as oil, gas or minerals. The share prices of Rio Tinto, the international mining group, for example will reflect trends in base metal prices.

Commodity brokers by and large deal with big investment players and institutional clients, and some will not take business from small, private investors, or may stipulate a high minimum investment.

A more accessible route is through a fund that invests in a spread of commodity producing companies. These function in the same way as unit trusts, with attendant charges and a specified minimum investment.

Average returns over the past year for these funds, which are either based on gold, or a range of gold and resources companies, are unlikely to inspire, being down by about 40 per cent, compared with more dynamic sectors such as UK equity growth funds, up nearly 14 per cent, or North America based funds, up nearly 18 per cent.

Commodity fund managers include Mercury, M&G, Gartmore and Waverley.

CLARE STEWART



Pharmaceuticals soared in New York when trading resumed

# Compound returns

**Bruce McWilliams looks at what the merger of SmithKline Beecham and Glaxo Wellcome will mean for investors**

For the hundreds of thousands of small investors in Glaxo Wellcome and SmithKline Beecham, the news that the two huge pharmaceutical companies were planning to merge meant that the value of their holdings in both companies had soared 50 per cent since the beginning of the year.

The deal, which was announced late last Friday night, will create the largest drugs company in the world and the second-biggest company in the world.

Peter Hollins, pharmaceutical analyst with the Birmingham stock broker Albert E Sharp, says that the combined entity represents the "pharmaceutical company of the future, with strong diagnostic and disease management capabilites".

Some 200,000 individuals have a direct stake in the two businesses which are traditional favourites with the small investor. Although firm details about the merger have yet to be announced, the proposed get-together will result in Glaxo shareholders receiving 59.5 per cent of the merged company. SmithKline shareholders, meanwhile, will receive the remaining 40.5 per cent.

Through index-tracking funds, such as the Virgin Growth Index Tracking or the Fidelity Money Builder Index funds, and other unit trusts, Peps and pension funds, millions of other investors will benefit indirectly from the decision by the companies to merge because both groups are FTSE 100 stocks.

But is now the time to buy in more stock in the sector, or take profits? Nigel Barnes, European pharmaceutical analyst with Merrill Lynch, predicts the size and frequency of mergers and acquisitions will increase. In the drugs industry the scale of investment needed to generate a decent return demands "enormous" research and development expenditure and in the future this could mean that only the largest companies with the greatest financial muscle will be able to foot the R&D bill.

Two weeks before the announcement of the mega-deal, SmithKline had announced that it was holding merger discussions with another pharmaceutical company, American Home Products. So far, SmithKline's shares have risen 50 per cent in total this year.

The basis for the gigantic growth in the share price of both companies is the estimated one-off cost savings of between £1 billion and £1.7 billion that the combined company would reap. The savings will come primarily through reductions in redundant administration. In addition, the combined research and development budgets for the two companies will be between 50 per cent and 100 per cent greater than for competitors.

By merging, as opposed to acquiring, the Glaxo-SmithKline company will receive more favourable accounting treatment, leading to higher reported earnings.

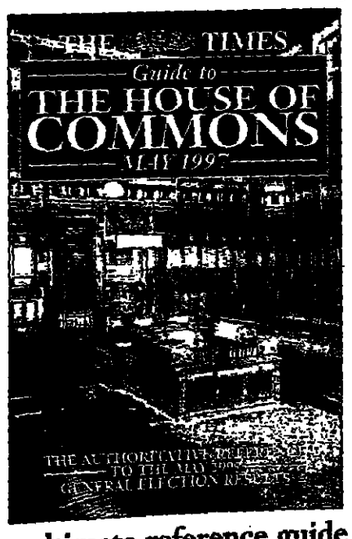
A good example of the potential for growth in this sector is Zeneca, made up of ICI's former pharmaceutical, agricultural and speciality chemical divisions. The group was separated from ICI in 1993 and floated on the stock market at 630p. Zeneca shares now stand at about £24.60 an increase of more than 300 per cent.

Analysts are bullish on the prospects for further takeovers. American Home Products was left at the altar by SmithKline, and Mr Hollins believes that the group will be forced to look for a new partner. He forecasts that other pharmaceutical companies such as Novartis, Roche, Zeneca, Pfizer and Merck will eventually be taken over or will agree to a merger.

For those who are risk-averse would like to invest in the pharmaceutical industry without having to buy directly into a single company, Framlington unit trusts offer a Framlington Health fund which invests solely in companies in the healthcare sector around the world.

The £80 million fund returned investors 10 per cent last year and 16 per cent annually over the past five years, before initial charges. The initial charge is 5.5 per cent with annual management charges at 1.5 per cent. But the FTSE 100 index, which is dominated by banking and pharmaceutical stocks, returned a dazzling 25 per cent.


# Who won what and why?




The ultimate reference guide to the 1997 General Election results

*Includes detailed breakdown of results by constituency*

£35 (inc.P&P)

☎ our 24-hour telephone ordering service on 0181 307 4052 or send this coupon to Mail Order, Dept. 94X, HarperCollins Publishers, Westerhill Road, Bishopbriggs, Glasgow, G64 2QT.

Please send me _____ copy/ies of The Times Guide to the House of Commons @ £35.00 (inc. P&P). I enclose a cheque for £ _____ made payable to HarperCollins Publishers or please debit my Access/Visa (delete where necessary)

Card No

Expiry date: ___/___

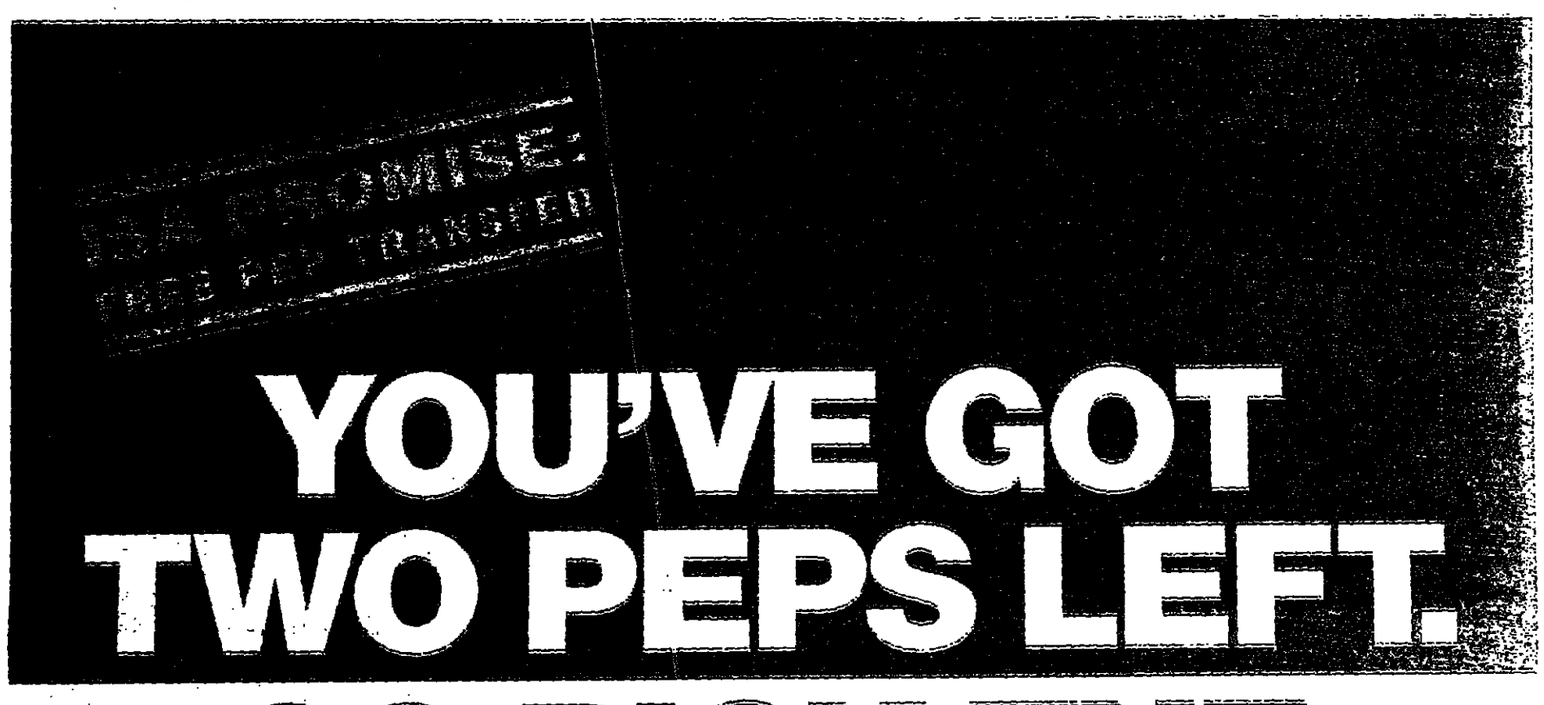
Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms/Other _____ Surname _____ Initials _____

Address _____

_____ Postcode _____

Signature _____ (Please allow 21 days delivery)






# SO PICK THE RIGHT ONE.

| | Initial PEP charge | Average annual growth (5yrs)† |
|---|---|---|
| SAVE & PROSPER GROWTH | 0%* | 20.1% |
| Fidelity International PEP | 3.25% | 15.9% |
| Perpetual PEP Growth | 5.25% | 12.9% |
| Morgan Grenfell Int. Growth | 5.25% | 10.6% |
| Jupiter International Growth | 5.00% | 10.5% |

*Subject to 0.5% Government Stamp Duty.

**With ISAs coming in 1999, you have just two tax years left to make the most of your PEP allowance. Our advice? Look long-term. Look at our Growth PEP since 1993: a thumping 20.1% average return every single year. Look at our initial charge: just 0.5% Government Stamp Duty. And look at the other top PEPs we beat on both counts. Then look forward. Because, whatever form ISAs take, we'll transfer your PEP holding completely free of charge. To find out more about the PEP that's looking way ahead, call us now.**

LINES OPEN 8am TO 9pm, 7 DAYS A WEEK.

**0800 829 100**

SAVE & PROSPER

www.prosper.co.uk

On 24.5.96 the objective of the Fund (formerly known as Scotbits) was broadened from investment in financial services to investment in any economic sector.

†All figures are based on buying to selling price with gross income reinvested over 5 years to 01.01.98. Source: Micropal. The value of investments, and any income from them, can fall as well as rise and you may not get back the amount invested. Tax concessions are not guaranteed; their value will depend on individual circumstances. Exchange rates may also affect performance. Past performance is not a guide to future returns. It has been announced that from 6th April 1999 it will not be possible to invest in a PEP. In the meantime you will not be disadvantaged by investing in a PEP. Save & Prosper is regulated by the Personal Investment Authority and IMRO. We only advise on products and services offered by the Flemings and Save & Prosper Marketing Group. 1952/001

If all the world's top companies were British, you wouldn't need our Global Tracking PEP.

Not all the best companies are British, which is why not all of the Norwich Global Tracking PEP is invested in British companies. Unlike most other tracking PEPs, we invest in over 2,500 companies worldwide, to give excellent potential for growth.

- Growth since launch in July 1996 of 28.6%* TAX-FREE†, with a historic return of 100.2%** over 5 years.
- 75% of your investment tracks UK companies and 25% tracks companies in 27 other stock markets worldwide.
- No initial charges and no charge for transfer from other PEPs.
- Access to your money whenever you want it.

For a free information pack call

0800 0562 450

quoting reference number 17158.

Lines open weekdays 8am-8pm, weekends 10am-4pm.

NORWICH UNION Direct

Norwich Union protects more.

INSURANCE INVESTMENTS HEALTHCARE PENSIONS

I would like more information on the Norwich Global Tracking PEP.

Please complete this coupon in BLOCK CAPITALS and return it to: Norwich Union Portfolio Services Limited, FREEPOST ANG 4243, Norwich NR1 3BR.

Title Initial Surname

Address

Postcode

Telephone Number (Day) (Evening)

REF: 17158

†Please note that it might not be possible to continue investment in a PEP after April 1999 when the Government plan to introduce a new Individual Savings Account. Past performance is no guide to the future; unit prices can go down as well as up; the performance of PEPs invested in equity based assets will reduce from 1999 due to the loss of a reclaimable tax credit. You should consider PEPs a medium to long term investment. Funds invested abroad may alter with exchange rate fluctuations. Information/advice will only relate to Norwich Union products. We may telephone you to confirm receipt of your information pack. **Buy to sell performance of the Norwich Global Tracking PEP, gross income reinvested 1/7/96 to 31/12/97. **Although the Norwich Global Tracking PEP has only been available for 1 year, if you had invested £1,000 on 1/1/93 in the underlying funds of the Norwich Global Tracking PEP (in the same proportions as the PEP) your investment would have been worth £1,002 (a growth of 100.2%) on 31/12/97, assuming the income tax benefits of a PEP also applied. Data that you provide may be used by Norwich Union group companies, your financial adviser or other relevant organisations for marketing purposes such as market research and contacting you regarding your insurance and investment needs. For your protection all telephone calls will be recorded. The Personal Investment Authority and IMRO regulate Norwich Union Portfolio Services Limited.



TIME TO EARN UP TO 7.76% GROSS P.A.

| FEBRUARY | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| M | T | W | T | F | S | S |
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | |

| MARCH | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| M | T | W | T | F | S | S |
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | 31 | | | | | |

| APRIL | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| M | T | W | T | F | S | S |
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | | |

| MAY | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| M | T | W | T | F | S | S |
| | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |

| JUNE | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| M | T | W | T | F | S | S |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 | | | | | |

| JULY | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| M | T | W | T | F | S | S |
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | |

With Investec Bank (UK)'s Six Month Notice Account you can earn...

| Balance | Gross p.a. | Gross p.a. (Bonus for over 55's) |
|---|---|---|
| £2,001 - £9,999 | 7.55% | 7.75% |
| £10,000 - £24,999 | 7.66% | 7.86% |
| £25,000+ | 7.76% | 7.96% |

BONUS FOR THE OVER 55's
An extra 0.20% will be added to the gross annual rate for clients over 55 years of age and will be automatically paid when clients become 55.

For more information please call our 24-hour answerphone on 0171-203-1650 or call one of our Account Managers on 0171-203-1550 between 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday. Alternatively, complete the coupon and FREEPOST it to us. For your security, telephone calls to Investec Bank (UK) Limited may be recorded.

INVESTEC
INVESTEC BANK (UK) LIMITED

To Investec Bank (UK) Limited, FREEPOST London EC4B 4BN
Please send me details of the Six Month Notice Account (SMNA)
Name
Address
Postcode
Investec Bank (UK) Limited, 2 Gresham Bridge, 27 Finsbury Hill, London EC4R 2AT
Email address: info@investec.co.uk

80104.2


Caroline Merrell on the Co-op's revived 'divi' and its rivals

# Spenders play loyalty card

Customer loyalty has suddenly become a much-prized commodity. New entrants to the financial services arena, such as Virgin, Tesco and Sainsbury's, have begun to produce more discerning customers.

A few years ago, it was practically unheard of for people to switch their bank accounts. Now, the higher rates offered by the newcomers, coupled with promises of better levels of service, have produced a more fluid consumer base. Sainsbury's Bank, for instance, has attracted more than 600,000 customers in the first year of operation. The Sainsbury's supermarket chain, which is spending more than £30 million on setting up the bank, is hoping that its loyalty system, which gives discounts on groceries, will ensure that customers remain loyal to both the bank and the store.

This week, the Co-op introduced a discount scheme to reward those who shop regularly in its 600 stores. Under the "divi" scheme, customers are offered 5p back for every £1 spent on Co-op brand goods and fresh produce. Customers can take their divi as shopping vouchers or as cash.

They can also choose to donate some of their divi to the local community. Dividend payments will be issued in the form of vouchers twice a year, in summer and at Christmas. A pilot scheme on dividend payments run in Northern Ireland resulted in 185,000 people receiving a total of £2 million and earning £100,000 for the local community. Customers have earned as much as £200 from one six-month payout.

John Bowes, CWS general manager, marketing, said: "As one of Britain's best-loved shopping traditions, the divi has inspired many imitators, but, with the help of new technology, the Co-op is putting the divi back where it belongs — into the pockets of customers and into the community."

Other loyalty schemes offer discounts on flights, cars, gas bills, insurance, mountain bikes and holidays.

Barclaycard, with its customer base of nine million people, manages to command great loyalty from its cardholders in spite of charging one of the highest rates of interest. Barclaycard offers profile points to customers. Every £100 spent earns ten profile points. Spending of £3,000 would earn points worth about £16. This sum would buy a Pierre Cardin wallet from the scheme's catalogue. According to NOP, the research group, this represents a real rate of return of 0.3 to 0.5 per cent.

Midland, which has 4.1 million customers, offers a Choice point system on its credit card. Every £100 will earn ten Choice points. A sum of £3,000 spent on the card will stack up points worth £19.99. These would buy a selection of book titles.

The Sainsbury reward card, which has 10.5 million customers, offers 100 reward points for every £100 spent. The 100 points are worth £1, so spending of £3,000 on the reward card would produce a discount of £30 on a Sainsbury's shopping bill. Tesco offers a similar card with the same sort of discounts on shopping.

NatWest's credit and debit cards offer Air Miles. Every £100 spent will clock up five Air Miles. To earn the value of a return flight to Amsterdam with British Airways, a NatWest cardholder must spend the equivalent of £10,000 on the credit card.

The TSB Trustcard has four million users. Every £10 spent will give a user ten points. Spending £3,000 on the card will be worth a total of £5 in points. TSB Trustcard offers goods from the Argos catalogue.

According to research by NOP, the best card for loyalty comes from Boots, which has 5.5 million users. Every £100 spent on the card, will produce 400 points. Spending £3,000 at Boots will be worth £120 in terms of free goods from Boots.

NOP found that loyalty and incentive schemes were of major importance when respondents were considering taking out a new credit card, although they were often secondary to financial factors such as low interest rates or the absence of an annual fee. Only 4.5 per cent of survey respondents claimed that a loyalty scheme was one of the most important factors when they took out their most recent credit card.

This compared with the 33 per cent who said that a low interest rate was an important factor and the 15 per cent who cited the absence of an annual fee.

However, in spite of the attractiveness of loyalty schemes, 85 per cent claimed that they had never redeemed their points in the past.



In its heyday, the original Co-op dividend was highly valued by families

# The taxman wants you

The Inland Revenue is preparing to impose charges — the like of which would make even a high street bank blanch — on the 810,000 people who failed to get their self-assessment forms in by last Saturday's deadline.

Nearly one in nine of the eight million taxpayers who were sent forms have failed to return them, the Inland Revenue revealed this week. From February 23 they will receive notice of a £100 penalty. Many of these people still owe tax for 1996-97, while some will have to pay half of their tax bill for 1997-98.

The Revenue is already charging 9.5 per cent interest every day these bills are not paid. At the end of this month it will add a 5 per cent surcharge for unpaid tax from 1996-97. This will be repeated in July.

The effect is staggering. If you owe the taxman £2,000 and do not settle your bill until the end of March, you will have to pay an extra £231 in interest and penalties, according to Tax Link, a tax adviser. This is equivalent to an APR (annual percentage rate) of 69.6 per cent, three times more than the most expensive credit card would charge for your borrowings.

If you have not returned your form and owe less than £100 in tax, you will not be liable to pay the full fine. You will, however, have to file the return and appeal against the penalty. If you do not appeal and do not pay the fine, the Revenue will start to charge 9.5 per cent interest on the £100 as well.

The Revenue is poised to net up to £90 million in penalties alone. However, a spokesman said that it was unlikely all the 900,000 late returns would be fined £100 and the final figure would be significantly lower.

Concerns have been raised that the Revenue may levy interest on taxpayers who could have avoided it. A final notice of payment that was recently sent by the Revenue to many taxpayers demanded payment only for 1996-97. It did not remind those who have a first payment on account for 1997-98 to pay. With tax offices jammed under mountains of forms and cheques it may be many weeks before reminders for 1997-98 are sent out.

Dawn Primarolo, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, tried to soften the blow by waiving the £100 penalty on people who had incorrectly filled in forms if they returned the forms by February 11.

This is no solace if you have not got round to the paperwork. Accountants and tax firms are gearing up for a dramatic upsurge in business from desperate taxpayers.

Tax Link is offering to pay the £100 penalty for people who agree to have their accounts handled by the firm for two years. The service costs £330. Meanwhile, its main rival, the Tax Team, will do your tax returns for £75, £175 or £275, depending on their complexity. It also offers a more expensive bespoke service for wealthy clients. Both companies have offices around the country and will visit customers at home.

With so many people struggling with the new system, the Revenue has attracted fierce criticism from tax experts. The Chartered Institute of Taxation said the Revenue had broken a pledge to be lenient when dealing with forms returned a few days late.

Douglas Fairbairn, director of tax at Ernst & Young, said that self-assessment would never work properly unless the tax system was simplified.

GAVIN LUMSDEN


Your Life Assurance can be cheaper

Policy Choice Direct

the financial people who let you choose

Our Unique Service is FREE

- Our FREE GUIDE gives you the facts
- Our FREE listings let you compare the rates of the top companies
- We arrange your policy
- We refund your first two months premium

0500 813913

Not all insurance policies and investments are suitable for everyone so if you have any doubt about suitability seek expert advice. We do not give financial advice.

Policy Choice Direct PLC is an appointed representative of Pier Financial which is regulated by the Personal Investment Authority for investment business.

www.policychoice.co.uk


# Lenders and OFT set for showdown

High street lenders are on course for a showdown with the Office of Fair Trading over its attempt to extend rules designed to protect vulnerable borrowers (Gavin Lumsden writes). Lenders such as Abbey National, Barclays, Halifax and the Nationwide have been on a collision course with the OFT since November, when it published new guidelines for lenders operating in the "non-status" market.

Non-status borrowers are people who have poor credit ratings, because of arrears or outstanding county court judgements, or who have low credit ratings because they have a poor history of employment or are self-employed and have difficulty verifying their income. Traditionally, they have been unable to get mortgages on the high street and have had to turn to expensive specialist lenders.

Aware that some borrowers risk being exploited, the OFT cracked down on non-status lenders in July. It banned dual interest rates, which penalise late payers with higher monthly payments, and exorbitant redemption penalties, which prevent borrowers from escaping expensive loans. Lenders were required to verify borrowers' income, disclose all charges and present the interest rate in standard APR form.

In November, the OFT revised the guidelines slightly, but reiterated that they applied to all lenders and brokers. Lenders had until the end of January to show that they were complying. Although specialist lenders such as Kensington Mortgage Company, Money Store and Southern Pacific say they have met the OFT deadline, larger lenders are resisting and are now technically in breach of the guidelines.

In recent years, high street lenders have become more flexible and will now lend to certain people with one county court judgment or arrears. This makes them non-status lenders in the OFT's eyes, a view that they are contesting.

Michael Coogan, of the Council of Mortgage Lenders, which is seeking urgent talks with the OFT, said: "We wholly support what the OFT is doing, but these guidelines were originally designed for non-status lenders. They have been introduced with no advance consultation." He says that the guidelines' emphasis on verifying borrowers' income will make it hard for self-employed people to get mortgages.

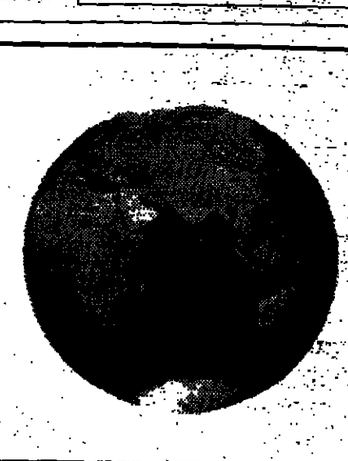
At stake is not just the definition of a non-status borrower, but whether the mortgage industry is to be allowed to regulate itself or face statutory control.

Ideally, the OFT, which reports to the Department of Trade and Industry, wants lenders to apply its principles to all borrowers, and not just vulnerable ones. Its guidelines are seen by some as a step towards direct regulation. This angers high street lenders, which have adopted a voluntary code, similar in many ways to the OFT's wishlist.

One lender who believes that the Government has already decided to put home loans within the new Financial Services Act, said: "The trouble with the code is that the cowboys always escape. It will never be enough."





a world of growing opportunities

Scottish Eastern, one of the UK's largest international investment trusts, has given investors an average annual return of 17.9% since 1980.* To find our how the Martin Currie Savings Plan and PEP could help you benefit from a world of investment opportunities with Scottish Eastern, clip the coupon or call

0800 132 647
QUOTING REF: TT 7/2

For more details about investing in The Scottish Eastern Investment Trust plc through the Martin Currie Savings Plan ☐ and PEP ☐ (please tick), send the coupon to Martin Currie, FREEPOST 960, Edinburgh EH1 2ZX.

NAME ADDRESS POSTCODE TT 7/2

WARNING: Please remember that past performance is no guide to the future. Market and currency movements may cause the value of shares, and the income from them, to fall as well as rise and you may get back less than you invested when you decide to sell your shares. *Source: Micropal. Average share price growth per annum with net income reinvested from 1 January 1980 to 1 January 1998 (Q). The equivalent five year figure is 14.4%. In April 1999 PEPs will be replaced by new Individual Savings Accounts (ISAs). PEPs will continue to enjoy some tax benefits until October 1999. The value of any benefits will depend on individual circumstances. Martin Currie Investment Management Limited, Saltire Court, 20 Castle Terrace, Edinburgh EH1 2ES. Regulated by IMRO.

SCOTTISH EASTERN

MARTIN · CURRIE

Growing investments since 1881

YOUR CALL MAY BE RECORDED FOR YOUR SECURITY.



High street store cards can cast a shadow over your finances

# Crippling interest charges in store

Retailers love store cards because they not only help to entice shoppers back and build up loyalty but they also allow stores to conduct valuable market research into your shopping habits.

If you borrow heavily on a store card and cannot pay it all back on time, you will be hit by crippling interest charges. Unless you know for certain that you can pay off the outstanding balance in full at the end of each month, a store card would not be a prudent addition to your wallet, and a credit card might be a better companion on your shopping trips.

With Capital One Bank's introductory offer on its credit card as low as 6.9 per cent APR, the difference of borrowing over a year could amount to the equivalent of a new outfit.

However, credit card payment is not always possible, and this is where stores can often have a hold over the customer. Marks & Spencer will allow its customers to pay only by cash, direct debit or M&S store card. John Lewis also has a policy of not accepting credit cards.

Apart from these exceptions, are store cards now redundant in an age in which Visa and Mastercard are widely accepted? Here Weekend Money looks at some of the most popular cards on offer.

■ **Harrods.** An electronic version of its traditional customer account. The store argues that the prestige is still the main selling point and one of the principal reasons customers apply for cards. Harrods has more than 250,000 cardholders who benefit from an additional 10 per cent discount on the first Saturday of every sale, invitations to previews of new designers and food tastings. APR is 29.8 per cent.

■ **Debenhams.** The benefits are a 10 per cent discount on first purchase, plus special offers. APR is 31 per cent, or 29 per cent if payment is by direct debit.

■ **Habitat.** Cardholders have up to £1,750 to spend immediately (subject to customer credit), a free catalogue, exclusive offers, new collection updates. APR is 29 per cent or 26 per cent with direct debit.

■ **Ikea.** Cardholders receive a free magazine. Option to visit sale previews is planned for 1998. APR of 29 per cent, or 26.8 per cent with direct debit.

■ **Marks & Spencer.** Offers both a charge card and budget card (which allows shoppers to restrict the amount they spend each month and plan their budget for the year). Benefits are a free M&S magazine worth £1, previews of collections, cardholder evenings, telephone ordering service and a 1 per cent discount on a personal loan with M&S Financial Services. APR 27.3 per cent, or 25.8 per cent with direct debit.

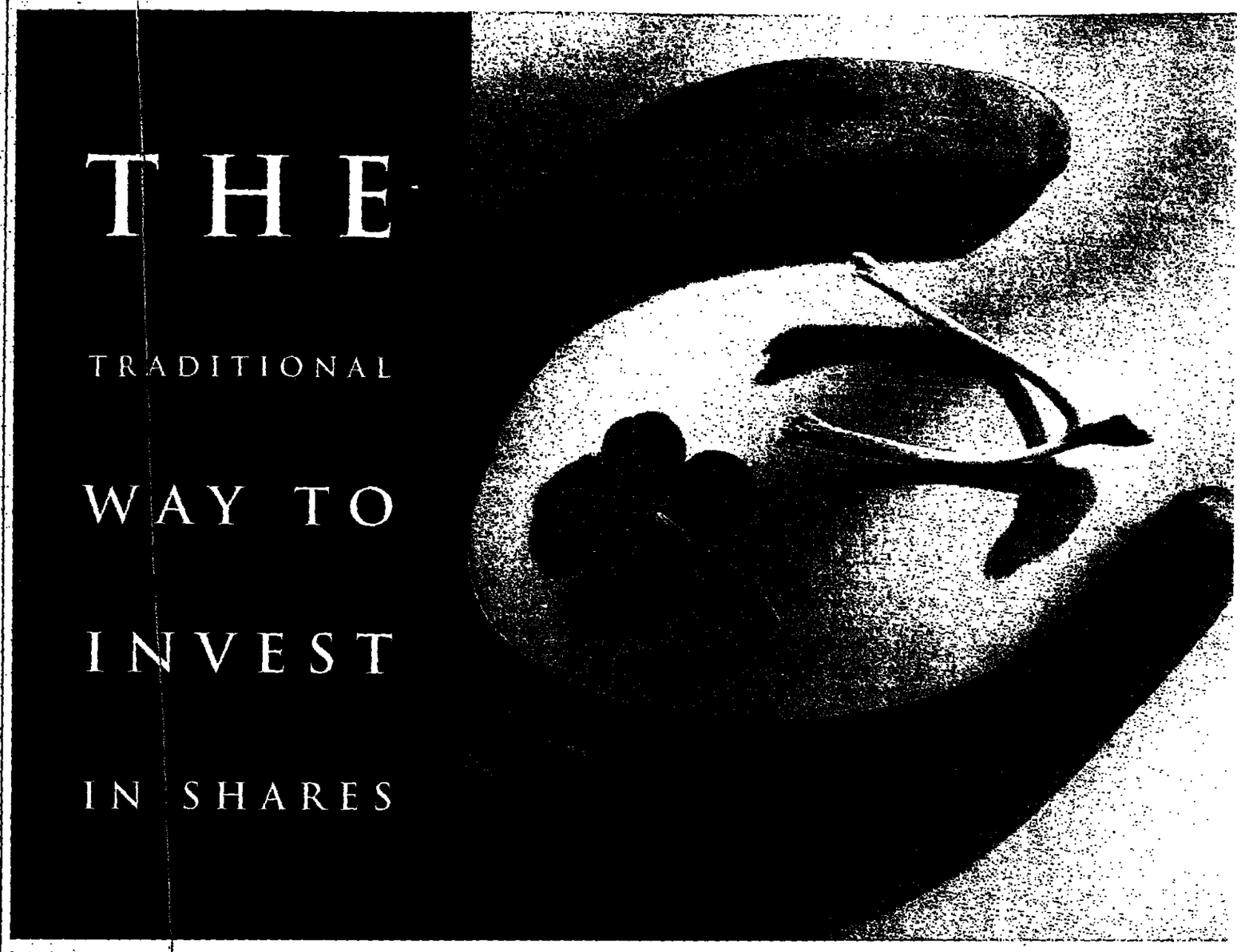
■ **House of Fraser.** Benefits are a 10 per cent discount on first purchase, sales previews and special events. APR 30.4 per cent, or 28.4 per cent with direct debit.

■ **John Lewis.** Option Account accepted in 23 department stores and 117 Waitrose supermarkets. Holders receive information about new merchandise and special offers. It can be used for ordering over the telephone, with free delivery in many areas. APR is 18 per cent.

■ **Sears.** SearsCard can be used in more than 2,000 stores, including Adams, Dolcis, Millets, Miss Selfridge, Richards, Selfridges, Sports Division, The Source, Wallis, Warehouse. Most run a discount or gift offer with first purchase. Other benefits differ from store to store. APR is 29.8 per cent, or 25.9 per cent with direct debit.

■ **Burton Group.** The card can be used in Dorothy Perkins, Burton Menswear, Top Shop, Top Man, Debenhams, Principles and Evans, with varying benefits. Although you will take out a specific store card — Principles, for example — all cards can be used in more than 1,400 other stores in Burton Group. APR is 31 per cent, or 29 per cent with direct debit.

LIZANNE ROSE


NOW THERE IS A NEW WAY

Take some of the chance out of investing in the stockmarket. Our All-Weather Equity Fund is a new generation of investment that combines hand-picked UK blue chip shares with a unique protection strategy. If you're interested in better potential returns than bank deposits or bonds, less risk than ordinary share funds and the flexibility to take your money out at any time, speak to your independent financial adviser or call us on the number below.

For a free brochure please complete and return coupon to: All-Weather Equity Fund, Morgan Grenfell Investment Funds Limited, FREEPOST, 20 Finsbury Circus, London EC2B 2UT.
Please tick: ☐ Unit Trust ☐ PEP TIMES
Name
Address
Postcode

MORGAN GRENFELL ASSET MANAGEMENT

FOR A COMPLIMENTARY BROCHURE FREECALL 0800 282 465

Issued by Morgan Grenfell Investment Funds Limited (a company regulated by the Personal Investment Authority), 20 Finsbury Circus, London EC2M 1NB. The price of shares and the income from them may fall, as well as rise. Investors may not get back the amount originally invested. From April 6, 1999, the income tax credit may no longer be reclaimable in a PEP and other tax benefits may change with the planned introduction of a new Individual Savings Account.

CASHING IN YOUR ENDOWMENT ?
IT'S EASY TO GET MORE
We regularly pay up to 30% MORE* than the surrender value for with profits endowment and whole life policies.
Life Company Offered £16,311
Policy Portfolio Price £21,100
*For policies which are at least 6 years old and have a surrender value greater than £2,000.
Don't lose out - contact Policy Portfolio Plc today.
Regulated by the Personal Investment Authority
POLICY PORTFOLIO T 725
TEL: 0181 343 4567 Lines Open 24 Hours - 7 Days a week
Gadd House, Arcadia Avenue, London N3 2JU

BIGGER CASH PAYMENTS FOR ENDOWMENTS! CALL FREE 0800 783 0862.
The UK's biggest buyer pays top prices for policies.
Your policy must be at least 8 years old and satisfy our selection criteria.
SEC
FAX: 0181 207 4950
SECURITISED ENDOWMENT CONTRACTS PLC
SEC House, 49 Theobald St., Borehamwood, Herts WD6 4RZ.

ENDOWMENT POLICIES WANTED
We Deliver Competitive Prices, Quick Results, and Quality Service
THE INSURANCE POLICY TRADING COMPANY LTD
22 CHURCH STREET : GODALMING : GU7 1EW
☎ 01483 427575 : Fax 01483 418866
Regulated by the Personal Investment Authority




How to save £30,000 interest on a £50,000 mortgage and pay your loan off 10 years early

Mortgage Trust

Our new Current Account Mortgage offers such a good deal to home buyers that it has just won the prestigious 'Your Mortgage' Award for Best Flexible Mortgage 1997/98.

Most mortgages are inflexible and tie you into a 25 year term. This can mean you pay a staggering amount of interest. For example, a typical £50,000 mortgage at, say, 8.24% (8.60% APR) would end up costing a total of £68,260 in interest.

The Current Account Mortgage from Mortgage Trust allows you to make extra mortgage payments - of any amount - whenever it suits. If you were to pay an extra £100 a month on a £50,000 mortgage you could own your home outright within 15 years, saving yourself £33,129 in interest charges, because unlike many mortgage lenders we calculate interest on a daily rather than annual basis.

To find out what huge savings you can make with The Current Account Mortgage, please call for a free illustrative and information pack on

0800 550 551

Lines are open 8.00am - 8.00pm weekdays 9.00am - 1.00pm weekends

- You can pay your mortgage off early and save £000's of interest.
- Free remortgage service - making it easier to switch lenders.
- Borrow up to 90% of the value of the property with a minimum loan size of £25,001.
- Savings far greater than returns on traditional deposit accounts.
- Make extra payments of any amount, to reduce amount owed. Instant access to these payments.
- As accessible as a current account with a monthly statement.
- No early redemption fees.
- Current competitive rate of interest 8.24% (8.60% APR) calculated on a daily basis.

YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN SECURED ON IT.

The variable and typical APR has been calculated on the assumption that the mortgage rate applicable will apply for the full term of the loan. Example shown above: based on a repayment loan, an interest rate of 8.24% (8.60APR) and a purchase price of £70,000. A couple taking out a mortgage of of £50,000 over 25 years (where the advance is 71.42% of the valuation of the property) would pay interest & capital of £393.89 per month gross (300 payments). For interest only loans, you are advised to arrange a suitable repayment vehicle to repay the capital at the end of the mortgage term. Limited up to 90% of Mortgage Trust's valuation of the property. A first legal charge over your property will be required as security. Other security may be required and security will be taken over your current account. All mortgages are subject to status, valuation and a minimum age of 18. A written free quotation is available on request from Mortgage Trust at the address shown above. Northern Ireland customers can obtain full details on the Current Account Mortgage by calling First National Building Society on 0845 601 3572 (local).

# THE TIMES MONEY INFORMATION SERVICE

## Midshires plans fair distribution

Birmingham Midshires Building Society has announced that many of its disabled, elderly and ill savers and borrowers will not be at a disadvantage in any distribution scheme if the society's proposed £600 million transfer to The Royal Bank of Scotland goes ahead.

In previous building society conversions and transfers this group of people missed out because of a legal loophole that permitted just one payment to be made to trustees for all investing or borrowing accounts in their name, regardless of the different ways in which they may have held these accounts.

Under new legislation passed last year, a trustee may receive a different distribution, or a separate distribution for each qualifying trustee account, as well as a distribution for accounts held in his or her own right.

Eligible Birmingham Midshires customers will become the first to benefit from this change in law.

The building society is writing to its members to ask them whether they think they could be a trustee account holder. In order to ensure their accounts benefit from the new law, trustee account holders must make a statutory declaration for each account they operate on this basis before the end of June. Statutory declaration forms will be sent out following publication in late April of the transfer document, which will outline the proposed distribution scheme and the rationale behind the proposed transfer.

■ Choosing the wrong type of mortgage could cost borrowers thousands of pounds or lock them into a deal with high redemption penalties. Liverpool Victoria, the friendly society, is offering a free guide that highlights the pros and cons of each type of mortgage available and the questions you should ask lenders before making a final choice. Call 0800 448811 for a copy.

■ *Money Talk*, a free guide to savings and investments, reveals how to get access to the stock market, choose the right savings account, stop the taxman taking a bite out of your savings and how to invest in a pension. It is available from all branches of Lloyds Bank or by calling Black Horse Financial Services on 0800 056 0020.

LIZANNE ROSE

## SAVERS' BEST BUYS

| INSTANT ACCESS ACCOUNTS | Account | Notice of term | Deposit | Rate | Interest paid |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Nationwide BS 0500 302010 | InvestDirect | Postal | £1 | 6.80 | Yly |
| Scottish Widows Bank 0845 8450829 | Instant Access | InstantB | £100 | 6.90 | Yly |
| Safeway 0800 995995 | Direct Savings | InstantB | £1,000 | 7.30 | Yly |
| Alliance & Leic 0845 6088880 | First Cls Inst | Postal | £10,000 | 7.50 | Yly |

| NOTICE ACCOUNTS & BONDS | Account | Notice of term | Deposit | Rate | Interest paid |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Scarborough BS 01723 500616 | Scarborough 30 | 30 day | £1,000 | 7.60 | Yly |
| Bristol & West 0800 202121 | Postal 30 | 30 day p | £10,000 | 7.80 | Yly |
| Legal & General Bank 0500 111200 | 60 Direct | 60 day p | £2,500 | 7.65 | Yly |
| Birm Midshires BS 0645 720721 | First Class 120 | 120 day p | £10,000 | 7.95 | Yly |

| FIRST TESSAS (TAX FREE) | Account | Notice of term | Deposit | Rate | Interest paid |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Melton Mowbray BS 0800 731 7385 | | 5 year | £1,000 | 7.90 | Yly |
| Yorkshire BS 0800 378836 | | 5 year | £2,000 | 7.90 | Yly |
| Legal & General Bank 0500 111200 | | 5 year | £3,000 | 7.90 | Yly |
| Skipton BS 0345 171777 | | 5 year | £3,000 | 7.90 | Yly |

## CREDIT CARDS BEST BUYS

| CREDIT CARDS | Card type | Interest per month | APR% | Fee per annum |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Capital One Bank 0800 669000 | Visa | 0.57%N | 6.90%N | Nil |
| RBS Advanta 0800 077770 | Visa | 0.64%N | 7.90%N | Nil |
| Co-operative Bank 0800 109000 | Advantage Visa | 0.69%NC | 8.60%N | Nil |

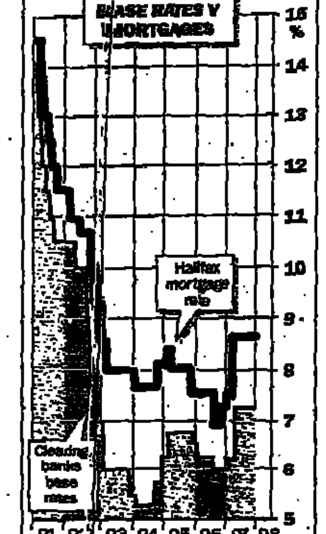
## PERSONAL LOANS BEST BUYS

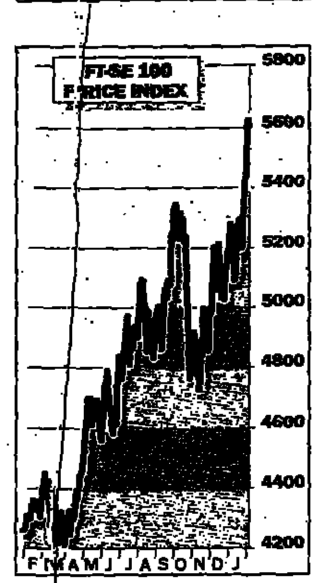
| PERSONAL LOANS | APR | Monthly payment on £5,000 for 3yrs: with insurance | no insurance |
|---|---|---|---|
| Northern Rock BS 0345 421421 | 9.90%H | £183.13 | £166.11 |
| Direct Line 0181 680 9966 | 12.80%A | £183.75 | £166.38 |
| RBS Direct 0800 121125 | 12.80% | £188.15 | £166.38 |

NB. A = Minimum age 22 years, B = Operated by post or telephone, C = no interest free period, F = Fixed Rate, H = If insurance not arranged APR 12.7 per cent, N = Introductory rate for a limited period, P = Operated by Post, T = Operated by Telephone.

* RATES SHOWN ARE GROSS AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE
PLEASE CHECK RATES BEFORE INVESTING

*Source: MoneyFacts, the Monthly Guide to Investment & Mortgage Rates* (01692 500 677)




| | Gross rate | At tax rates 20% | 40% | Min/maximum investment £ | Notice | Contact |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Ordinary A/c¹ | 2.00 | 1.60 | 1.20 | 10-10,000** | | 0645 645000 |
| Investment A/c*‡ | 4.75 | 3.80 | 2.85 | 1-499**⁷ | 1mth | 0645 645000 |
| Income Bond* ‡ | 7.00 | 5.60 | 4.20 | 2,000-25,000** | 3mth | 0645 645000 |
| First Opt Bond‡ | 6.75 | 5.40 | 4.05 | 1,000-20,000** | | 0645 645000 |
| 45th Issue Certs† | 5.00 | | | 100-10,000 | 8day | 0645 645000 |
| Children's Bond† | 6.25 | | | 25-1,000 | 1mth | 0645 645000 |
| Gen Ext Rate | 3.51 | | | | | 0645 645000 |
| Capital Bond‡ | 6.25 | 5.00 | 3.75 | 100-250,000 | 8day | 0645 645000 |
| 12th Ind Linked† | 2.50 | | | 100-10,000 | 8day | 0645 645000 |
| Pensnrs Bond S4‡ | 6.50 | 5.20 | 3.90 | 500-50,000 | 60day | 0645 645000 |

¹ first £70 (£140 jt) of int tax free, inst accs for up to £100 ² Unlimited additional hldgs for reinvested proceeds †Tax free *Rates gross and vble ‡Guaranteed when held for 5 years ¹0.2% net bonus for £20,000+ ²£100,000 jt in addition to S1, S2 and S3 holdings ⁴Taxable but cred in full ⁷£500-100,000 earn higher rates ** Tiered rates apply.

All figures are the gross annual annuity (£100,000 purchase), guaranteed 5 years, paid monthly in advance

| SINGLE LIFE (level ann) | | Male: Age 60 | Age 65 | Age 70 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Canada Life | Level | £8,748 | £9,850 | £11,347 |
| Sun Life | Level | £8,640 | £9,772 | £11,298 |
| Sun Lf of Can | Level | £8,691 | £9,780 | £11,212 |
| Legal & General | Level | £8,676 | £9,714 | £11,022 |
| Equitable Lf | Level | £8,691 | £9,707 | £11,100 |

| SINGLE LIFE | | Female: Age 60 | Age 65 | Age 70 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Prudential | Level | £8,193 | £8,911 | £10,111 |
| Canada Life | Level | £8,035 | £8,869 | £10,077 |
| Generali | Level | £7,870 | £8,809 | £10,096 |
| Norwich Un | Level | £8,008 | £8,756 | £9,932 |
| Equitable Life | Level | £7,992 | £8,730 | £9,796 |

| JOINT LIFE, 2/3 WIDOWS (level annuity) | | Male: Age 60 / Female: Age 55 | Age 65 / Age 60 | Age 70 / Age 65 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Prudential | Level | £7,622 | £8,221 | £8,985 |
| Equitable Lf | Level | £7,620 | £8,202 | £9,018 |
| Generali | Level | £7,488 | £8,155 | £9,064 |
| Sun Lf of Can | Level | £7,528 | £8,134 | £9,984 |
| Norwich Un | Level | £7,545 | £8,103 | £8,768 |

*Source: Annuity Direct (0171 684 5000)*

**Statistics compiled by Lizanne Rose**

## GUARANTEED INCOME BONDS

ANNUAL INCOME

Rates as at February 5, 1998

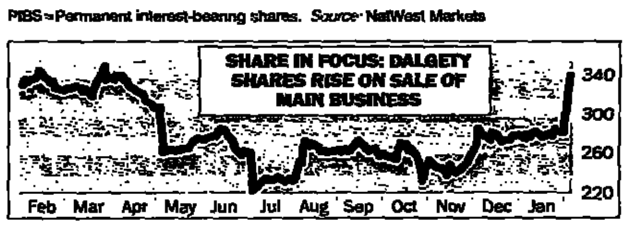
| | Investment (£) | Company | Standard Rate (%) |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 Year | | | |
| | 1,000 | Hambro Assured | 4.80 |
| | 5,000 | AIG Life | 6.25 |
| | 10,000 | GE Fin Assur | 6.65 |
| 2 Years | | | |
| | 1,000 | Hambro Assured | 5.30 |
| | 15,000 | AIG Life | 6.10 |
| | 25,000 | AIG Life | 6.15 |
| | 40,000 | AIG Life | 6.25 |
| 3 Years | | | |
| | 1,000 | Hambro Assured | 5.35 |
| | 3,000 | ITT London & Ed | 6.10 |
| | 50,000 | GE Fin Assur | 6.13 |
| 4 Years | | | |
| | 1,000 | Hambro Assured | 5.35 |
| | 3,000 | ITT London & Ed | 6.15 |
| 5 Years | | | |
| | 1,000 | Hambro Assured | 5.50 |
| | 3,000 | ITT London & Ed | 6.05 |

Source: Chamberlain de Broë 0171-434 4222. Net rates. Income and capital guaranteed. Early surrender. Terms vary. Monthly income may be available.

## PIBS

| FIXED RATE | Gross coupon | Buying price | % Gross yield | Issue price | Minimum purchase amount |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Birmingham Midshires | 9.375% | 126.25 | 7.430 | 100.17 | 1,000 |
| Bradford & Bingley | 11.625% | 156.50 | 7.430 | 100.13 | 10,000 |
| Bradford & Bingley | 13.000% | 174.75 | 7.440 | 100.20 | 10,000 |
| Britannia | 13.000% | 174.25 | 7.460 | 100.42 | 1,000 |
| Coventry | 12.125% | 162.00 | 7.480 | 100.75 | 1,000 |
| First National | 11.750% | 158.00 | 7.440 | 100.25 | 10,000 |
| Leeds & Holbeck | 13.375% | 185.25 | 7.220 | 100.23 | 1,000 |
| Newcastle | 10.750% | 152.00 | 7.070 | 100.32 | 1,000 |
| Newcastle | 12.625% | 175.75 | 7.180 | 100.45 | 1,000 |
| Skipton | 12.875% | 180.25 | 7.140 | 100.48 | 1,000 |
| **PERPETUAL SUBORDINATED BONDS** | | | | | |
| Chelt & Gloucester | 11.750% | 162.25 | 7.240 | 100.98 | 50,000 |
| Halifax | 8.750% | 118.50 | 7.380 | 100.62 | 50,000 |
| Halifax | 12.000% | 155.00 | 7.740 | 100.28 | 50,000 |
| Halifax | 13.630% | 189.25 | 7.200 | 100.00 | 50,000 |
| Bristol & West | 13.380% | 178.75 | 7.480 | 100.34 | 1,000 |
| Northern Rock | 12.625% | 168.75 | 7.480 | 100.14 | 1,000 |

PIBS = Permanent interest-bearing shares. *Source:* NatWest Markets




## LARGER LENDERS

| Lender | Interest rate % | Loan size | Max % | Notes |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bank of Ireland 01189 510100 | 0.99 | £20-145k | 95 | Fixed 6 mths Further dscs apply |
| Northern Rock¹ 0845 6050500 | 3.99 | to £250k | 75 | Fixed to 1.4.00 £395 fee |
| Alliance & Leic 0345 108108 | 4.49 | £20-300k | 75 | Fixed to 1.3.00 5% fee, £300 max |
| Woolwich² 0181 298 5831 | 4.99 | £15-250k | 95 | Fixed to 1.4.00 £350 fee |
| Chelsea 0800 291291 | 5.39 | £20-150k | 80 | Fixed to 1.2.00 £295 fee |

NB. ¹ compulsory products, buildings and contents insurance. ² buildings insurance only.

## LARGER LOANS

| Lender | Interest rate % | Loan size | Max % | Notes |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bank of Ireland 0118 9510100 | 0.99 | £20-145k | 95 | Fixed 6 mths, more dscs, £280 fee |
| Scarborough¹ 0990 133149 | 0.99 | £15-100k | 95 | 7.70% dsc - 6 mths more dscs apply |
| Leeds & Holbeck¹ 0113 225 7777 | 1.45 | to £180k | 95 | Fixed to 1.4.99 £295 fee |
| Mansfield 01246 202055 | 2.2 | £125-175k | 80 | 6% disc-6 mths, more dscs apply |
| Universal¹ 0191 232 0973 | 2.69 | £20-150k | 90 | 6% disc to 1.11.98 £295 fee |

NB. ¹ compulsory products, buildings and contents insurance.

| Lender | Interest rate % | Loan size | Max % | Notes |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bank of Ireland 01189 510100 | 0.99 | £20-145k | 95 | Fix 6 mths, more dscs, £280 fee |
| Mansfield 01246 202055 | 2.20 | £25-100k | 95 | 6% disc-6 mth More dscs apply |
| Bristol & West 0800 119955 | 3.49 | no max | 95 | Fix to 1.4.99 £295 fee |
| Newbury 01635 43676 | 4.85 | £30-100k | 95 | 3% disc-12 mnths |
| Wesleyan 0121 200 3003 | 5.35 | to £100k | 95 | 3.25% disc for 12 mnths |

*Larger lenders, loans and first-time buyers tables by Bay's Guides Ltd. (01753 880482)*


FREE OFFER
Discover How You Could Make Serious Money From Penny Shares
To receive a FREE copy of PENNY SHARE GUIDE, Britain's No. 1 publication for tipping exciting smaller company shares PLUS an exclusive FREE market report pack including details of how to claim a FREE copy of "The Investor's Guide to How the Stock Market Really Works" published by the Financial Times/Pitman Publishing, simply...
CALL NOW ON: 0500 823873
Approved by Fleet Street Publications Ltd, who are regulated by the Personal Investment Authority. Registered Office: 271 Regent Street, London W1R 7PA.
YOUR CALL MAY BE RECORDED FOR YOUR SECURITY


## UNIT-LINKED INSURANCE INVESTMENTS

| | Bid | Offer | Wkly +/- | Yld % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **AEGON LIFE ASSURANCE** Edinburgh Park, Edinburgh EH12 9SE 0131 339 9191 | | | | |
| Balanced | 597.10 | 631.90 | +11.60 | .. |
| UK Equity | 845.30 | 894.50 | +17.20 | .. |
| Property | 456.30 | 482.90 | -0.40 | .. |
| Fixed Interest | 374.90 | 396.80 | -0.40 | .. |
| Money | 284.10 | 300.70 | +0.20 | .. |
| International | 474.40 | 502.10 | +13.70 | .. |
| **ABBEY LIFE** Holdenhurst Road, Bournemouth BH8 8AL 01202 292373 | | | | |
| Custodian S4 | 225.20 | 239.00 | +1.50 | ... |
| Ethical S4 | 191.40 | 201.50 | +5.70 | ... |
| International S4 | 227.80 | 239.80 | +5.60 | ... |
| Protected Gth S4 | 132.10 | 139.10 | +0.30 | ... |
| Asian Pacific | 150.50 | 158.50 | +16.30 | ... |
| European S4 | 281.70 | 296.60 | -6.60 | ... |
| Prop Fd Ser 4 | 457.60 | 481.70 | -0.50 | ... |
| Equity Ser 4 | 329.40 | 346.80 | +5.90 | ... |
| Man Ser 4 | 890.70 | 937.60 | +15.10 | ... |
| Conv Ser 4 | 372.30 | 392.10 | -0.40 | ... |
| Money Ser 4 | 372.10 | 391.70 | +0.40 | ... |
| Fixed Int Ser 4 | 451.20 | 475.00 | -0.80 | ... |
| American Ser 4 | 860.20 | 905.50 | +8.70 | ... |
| High Inc Ser 4 | 1034.50 | 1089.00 | -19.00 | ... |
| Indexed Inv Ser 4 | 259.30 | 272.90 | -0.31 | ... |
| Japan Ser 4 | 252.80 | 265.90 | +6.20 | ... |
| Formerly Hill Samuel Life Assurance Ltd | | | | |
| Security Fund | 858.20 | 908.20 | +19.00 | ... |
| British Fund | 913.60 | 966.80 | -23.40 | ... |
| International | 739.30 | 782.40 | +15.00 | ... |
| Dollar Fund | 695.50 | 736.00 | +8.40 | ... |
| Capital Fund | 707.60 | 748.80 | +18.10 | ... |
| Income Fund | 1131.60 | 1197.50 | +27.10 | ... |
| Property Series A | 584.40 | 618.50 | | 4.31 |
| Property Units | 976.90 | 1025.90 | ... | |
| Financial Fund | 1111.30 | 1176.00 | +29.80 | ... |
| Managed Ser A | 777.80 | 823.10 | +15.90 | ... |
| Managed Units | 1409.20 | 1482.40 | +23.70 | ... |
| High Yield Fund | 1013.40 | 1072.90 | +19.80 | ... |
| Money Series A | 329.30 | 348.50 | +0.30 | ... |
| Money Units | 441.70 | 465.00 | -0.30 | ... |
| Equity Fund | 902.50 | 955.10 | +22.40 | ... |
| Fixed Interest | 482.80 | 510.90 | -2.50 | ... |
| Indexed Secs | 224.50 | 237.60 | +0.10 | ... |
| European Fund | 1144.80 | 1211.50 | -20.30 | ... |
| Natural Res | 254.40 | 269.30 | -1.60 | ... |
| Far East Fund | 470.70 | 498.10 | +28.40 | ... |
| Smaller Cos | 710.20 | 751.60 | +12.70 | ... |
| Special Sits | 782.30 | 827.90 | +8.00 | ... |
| Man Currency | 292.50 | 309.30 | +1.01 | ... |
| Japanese Tech | 241.90 | 256.00 | -2.50 | ... |
| US Smaller Cos | 527.20 | 557.90 | +5.60 | ... |
| Formerly Target Life Assurance Co Ltd | | | | |
| Deposit | 280.70 | 295.50 | -0.23 | ... |
| Financial Ser I | 40.50 | 46.30 | -1.50 | ... |
| Fixed Interest | 407.70 | 429.20 | -3.10 | ... |
| Gold | 67.60 | 71.20 | -1.70 | ... |
| Managed | 453.20 | 498.20 | +5.50 | ... |
| Mngd Growth | 274.20 | 288.70 | +3.40 | ... |
| Property | 398.20 | 419.20 | +1.20 | ... |
| Residential Prop | 125.70 | 132.40 | -0.60 | ... |
| TSB American | 399.00 | 420.00 | +3.20 | ... |
| TSB Brit Gwth | 1414.00 | 1488.50 | +24.30 | ... |
| TSB European | 423.40 | 445.70 | -3.40 | ... |
| TSB Income | 657.10 | 691.70 | +9.10 | ... |
| TSB Intl | 561.90 | 591.50 | +9.20 | ... |
| TSB Pacific | 329.40 | 346.80 | +17.60 | ... |
| For Albany Life see Canada Life | | | | |
| **ALLIED DUNBAR ASSURANCE** Swindon SN1 1EL 01793 514514 | | | | |
| Fxd Int Dep Acc | 424.80 | 447.20 | +0.50 | ... |
| Equity Acc | 2047.10 | 2154.90 | +56.40 | ... |
| Property Acc | 755.50 | 795.30 | +1.10 | ... |
| Far East Acc | 254.60 | 268.00 | +16.50 | ... |
| Managed Capital | 703.10 | 740.20 | +14.90 | ... |
| -do- Acc | 1543.10 | 1624.40 | +32.90 | ... |
| Overseas Acc | 1496.20 | 1575.00 | +37.50 | ... |
| Gilt Edged Acc | 634.10 | 667.50 | -1.50 | ... |
| Amer Equity Acc | 1412.70 | 1487.10 | +30.90 | ... |
| Amer Mon Acc | 587.20 | 618.10 | -7.80 | ... |
| Amer Prop Acc | 133.50 | 140.60 | -0.60 | ... |
| Distribution Bonds | 29.00 | 30.60 | +0.30 | ... |
| **AXA EQUITY & LAW LIFE ASSURANCE** Amersham Road, High Wycombe, Bucks 01494 463463 | | | | |
| Reserve Ser 6 | 190.40 | 200.80 | -0.10 | ... |
| Balced Ser 6 | 1018.50 | 1070.10 | +24.70 | ... |
| Opportunity Ser 6 | 235.00 | 247.40 | +6.70 | ... |
| Distribution Ser 6 | 117.10 | 123.30 | +1.00 | 6.15 |
| UK Equities Ser 6 | 1565.20 | 1666.70 | +40.20 | ... |
| Higher Inc Ser 6 | 1641.70 | 1780.00 | +42.70 | ... |
| North Amer Ser 6 | 710.10 | 747.50 | +14.90 | ... |
| Far East Ser 6 | 462.90 | 487.30 | +26.30 | ... |
| Europe Ser 6 | 618.90 | 651.50 | -10.40 | ... |
| Intnl Ser 6 | 741.60 | 780.70 | +21.90 | ... |
| Property Ser 6 | 629.90 | 663.70 | ... | ... |
| Fixed Int Ser 6 | 543.20 | 571.80 | +0.60 | ... |
| Ind-Lnkd Sec S6 | 223.70 | 235.50 | +0.10 | ... |
| Gteed Dep Ser 6 | 339.00 | 356.90 | +0.30 | ... |
| **BARCLAYS LIFE** 252 Romford Road, London E7 9JB 0181 534 5544 | | | | |
| Equity Acc | 1362.90 | 1434.80 | +31.30 | ... |
| -do- Initial | 806.50 | 851.10 | +19.50 | ... |
| Gilt Edged Acc | 508.80 | 533.50 | -0.40 | ... |
| -do- Initial | 302.20 | 319.30 | -0.20 | ... |
| International Acc | 491.70 | 517.50 | +11.00 | ... |
| -do- Initial | 291.30 | 306.70 | +7.10 | ... |
| Managed Acc | 745.90 | 785.20 | +14.90 | ... |
| -do- Initial | 443.50 | 466.90 | +8.80 | ... |
| Money Acc | 330.50 | 347.90 | +0.30 | ... |
| Property Acc | 356.70 | 375.50 | +0.10 | ... |
| -do- Initial | 212.80 | 224.00 | -0.20 | ... |
| America Acc | 501.10 | 527.50 | +6.90 | ... |
| Far East Gwth | 170.60 | 179.60 | +14.30 | ... |
| Financial Acc | 631.60 | 664.90 | +16.20 | ... |
| 500 Accum | 570.10 | 600.20 | +9.20 | ... |
| Japan Acc | 200.20 | 210.80 | +5.40 | ... |
| Income Acc | 791.10 | 832.80 | +14.00 | ... |
| Special Sits Acc | 424.20 | 446.60 | +8.20 | ... |
| Univ Tech Acc | 209.80 | 220.90 | +4.90 | ... |
| **BLACK HORSE LIFE** Mountbatten House, Chatham, Kent ME4 4JF 01634 834000 | | | | |
| The Managed Fd | 1136.24 | 1136.24 | +22.31 | ... |
| Income Fund | 1177.02 | 1239.47 | +31.78 | ... |
| Extra Income | 1058.71 | 1114.44 | +23.42 | ... |
| Worldwide Gth | 843.39 | 877.26 | +17.74 | ... |
| Balanced Fund | 1036.42 | 1090.97 | +28.93 | ... |
| Smllr Cos Recov | 1115.96 | 1174.70 | +13.40 | ... |
| N Amer & Genrl | 588.76 | 619.75 | +12.48 | ... |
| Pacific Basin | 275.84 | 290.36 | +27.66 | ... |
| German Growth | 326.25 | 341.32 | -9.54 | ... |
| Japan Growth | 139.42 | 146.76 | +0.38 | ... |
| The UK Gth Fd | 334.82 | 352.45 | +8.98 | ... |
| Contl Euro Gth | 204.24 | 214.99 | -3.23 | ... |
| Property Fund | 454.80 | 478.74 | +1.02 | ... |
| Fixed Interest | 424.35 | 446.69 | -0.56 | ... |
| Cash Fund | 320.87 | 337.76 | +0.30 | ... |
| Managed Inv | 672.63 | 708.04 | +13.81 | ... |
| Nth Amer Recov | 371.66 | 391.23 | +3.34 | ... |
| **BRITANNIA** 50 Bothwell St, Glasgow G2 6HR 0141 248 2000 | | | | |
| Measured Perf | 235.70 | 249.40 | +3.80 | ... |
| Performance Plus | 265.10 | 280.40 | +9.20 | ... |
| With Profit Perf | 201.40 | 213.10 | +0.30 | ... |
| UK Opportunity | 322.70 | 341.40 | +4.40 | ... |
| Euro Opportunity | 339.00 | 358.70 | -9.90 | ... |
| North Amer Opp | 301.50 | 319.10 | +3.20 | ... |
| Far East Opp | 173.30 | 183.30 | +11.40 | ... |
| Gwth Prop Ser 1 | 180.90 | 190.50 | ... | ... |
| Gth Prop Ser 2 | 216.60 | 229.20 | +0.10 | ... |
| Fixed Int | 262.40 | 277.60 | ... | ... |
| Cash | 179.60 | 189.90 | -0.10 | 6.49 |
| Overseas | 305.50 | 323.20 | +10.60 | ... |
| Formerly LAS | | | | |
| Managed Fund | 493.80 | 519.80 | +8.10 | ... |
| UK Equity | 976.20 | 1027.60 | +13.10 | ... |
| Property | 299.00 | 314.80 | -0.20 | ... |
| Money Market | 284.60 | 299.60 | +0.20 | ... |
| Fixed Interest | 381.10 | 401.20 | ... | ... |
| Japan | 267.00 | 281.10 | -2.00 | ... |
| North America | 268.30 | 282.50 | +2.80 | ... |
| International | 472.00 | 496.90 | +16.30 | ... |
| European | 433.90 | 456.40 | +12.90 | ... |
| Far East | 128.30 | 135.10 | +8.40 | ... |
| **CANADA LIFE** 2-6 High Street, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 5BA 01707 51122 | | | | |
| Managed | 464.00 | 488.50 | +9.90 | ... |
| Property | 303.70 | 319.70 | -0.30 | ... |
| Gilt & Fxd Int | 303.30 | 319.30 | -0.20 | ... |
| Equity | 994.80 | 1026.20 | +16.50 | ... |
| Cash | 242.90 | 255.60 | +0.20 | ... |
| CLife Euro Mgd | 550.10 | 579.10 | +11.70 | ... |
| CLife Intl Fd | 379.00 | 399.00 | +8.30 | ... |
| Managed Fund | 990.70 | 1042.80 | +21.00 | ... |
| Property Fund | 621.50 | 654.20 | -0.70 | ... |
| Equity Fund | 1467.90 | 1545.20 | +40.80 | ... |
| Gilt Edged Fd | 782.40 | 823.60 | -0.50 | ... |
| Deposit Fund | 374.90 | 394.60 | -0.30 | ... |
| Investment Fd | 649.00 | 680.40 | +18.30 | ... |
| International | 603.30 | 635.00 | +13.30 | ... |
| Formerly Albany Life | | | | |
| UK Equity | 2317.30 | 2439.20 | +19.80 | ... |
| Merc European | 609.70 | 641.80 | +17.10 | ... |
| Merc Fxd Int | 637.60 | 671.20 | -2.00 | ... |
| Gtd Money | 378.60 | 398.40 | +0.40 | ... |
| Mercury Intl Mgd | 930.20 | 980.20 | +13.30 | ... |
| Merc Int Fxd Int | 384.20 | 404.40 | -0.20 | ... |
| Mercury Japan | 218.10 | 229.60 | +3.90 | ... |
| Merc Nth Amer | 532.00 | 559.90 | +9.30 | ... |
| UK Property | 521.20 | 548.60 | -0.60 | ... |
| Merc Multip Ins | 1396.50 | 1470.00 | +17.60 | ... |
| **CITY OF WESTMINSTER ASSURANCE** Sentry House, 500 Avebury Blvd, Milton Keynes MK9 2NU. 01908 606101 | | | | |
| Property Fund | 227.00 | 239.00 | .. | |
| Managed Fund | 910.30 | 958.20 | +19.20 | ... |
| Equity Fund | 580.40 | 611.20 | +15.00 | ... |
| **CLERICAL MEDICAL/FIDELITY INVESTMENTS** Narrow Plain, Bristol BS2 0JH. 0117 9290566 | | | | |
| Assurance Funds | | | | |
| Sapphire Mixed | 402.80 | 424.00 | +7.50 | ... |
| Ruby | 216.40 | 228.40 | -4.10 | ... |
| Emerald | 176.60 | 186.00 | -0.10 | ... |
| Equity | 510.80 | 537.70 | +10.40 | ... |
| Property | 261.40 | 275.20 | +0.50 | ... |
| Gilt & Fixed Int | 263.30 | 277.20 | -0.80 | ... |
| Indexed Secs | 206.20 | 217.20 | +0.10 | ... |
| Cash | 211.80 | 223.00 | +0.20 | ... |
| Nth American | 394.20 | 415.00 | +6.80 | ... |
| Far East | 241.50 | 254.20 | +7.20 | ... |
| International | 300.30 | 315.10 | +7.10 | ... |
| Special Sits | 540.70 | 569.20 | +6.20 | ... |
| Intl Income | 479.10 | 504.40 | +9.20 | ... |
| European | 539.60 | 568.00 | +11.50 | ... |
| Japanese | 99.60 | 104.90 | -1.50 | ... |
| SE Asia | 305.60 | 321.70 | +22.30 | ... |
| With Profits Reg | 200.10 | 210.70 | +0.20 | ... |
| -do- Spec | 200.10 | 210.70 | +0.20 | ... |
| Flexible Retirement Plans Funds | | | | |
| Mixed | 484.50 | 510.10 | +11.40 | ... |
| Equity | 666.30 | 701.40 | +18.20 | ... |
| Property | 247.60 | 260.60 | +0.30 | ... |
| Gilt & Fixed Int | 348.90 | 367.20 | -1.10 | ... |
| Index Linked | 223.10 | 234.90 | +0.10 | ... |
| Cash | 295.00 | 310.60 | +0.40 | ... |
| Nth American | 491.70 | 517.60 | +7.90 | ... |
| Far East Acc | 250.50 | 263.70 | +9.40 | ... |
| International Acc | 371.40 | 391.00 | +9.10 | ... |
| Special Sits | 819.50 | 862.70 | +11.50 | ... |
| European Flex | 781.80 | 823.00 | +18.70 | ... |
| **COLONIAL MUTUAL GROUP** Colonial Mutual House, Chatham Maritime, Kent ME4 4YY. 01634 890 000 | | | | |
| (Unlist) Ser 1 | 269.26 | ... | ... | |
| -do- Pacemaker I | 423.35 | ... | ... | |
| -do- Cash | 227.89 | 239.88 | +0.16 | ... |
| -do- Equity | 809.04 | 851.62 | +21.68 | ... |
| -do- Fxd Int | 457.41 | 481.48 | -0.45 | ... |
| -do- Managed | 565.45 | 595.21 | +12.56 | ... |
| -do- Property | 437.68 | 460.72 | -0.96 | ... |
| (Pens): Cash Cap | 220.41 | 232.02 | +0.13 | ... |
| -do- Cash Inv | 360.62 | 379.61 | +0.47 | ... |
| -do- Equity Cap | 2108.78 | 2219.78 | +62.57 | ... |
| -do- Equity Inv | 3450.29 | 3631.90 | +104.43 | ... |
| -do- Fixed Cap | 491.52 | 517.40 | -1.31 | ... |
| -do- Fixed Inv | 804.20 | 846.54 | -1.57 | ... |
| -do- Index Cap | 233.24 | 245.53 | +0.15 | ... |
| -do- Index Inv | 381.62 | 401.72 | +0.47 | ... |
| -do- Mngd Cap | 822.36 | 865.55 | +23.33 | ... |
| -do- Mngd Inv | 1345.35 | 1416.16 | +37.46 | ... |
| **COMMERCIAL UNION** St Helen's, 1 Undershaft, EC3 0171 283 7500 | | | | |
| Var Ann Acc (5)‡ | 1232.05 | ... | +60.71 | ... |
| Var Ann (5)‡ | 132.35 | ... | +5.39 | ... |
| Prime Managed | 567.40 | 597.30 | +11.80 | ... |
| Prime UK Equity | 785.20 | 826.60 | +19.10 | ... |
| Prime Int Equity | 356.30 | 375.10 | +9.40 | ... |
| Prime Property | 280.90 | 295.70 | +0.50 | ... |
| Prime Fxd Int | 287.70 | 302.90 | -0.40 | ... |
| Prime Index-Lnk | 205.90 | 216.80 | +0.10 | ... |
| Prime Cash | 233.00 | 245.30 | +0.20 | ... |
| **CONFEDERATION LIFE** Lytton Way, Stevenage, Herts SG1 2NN 01438 744840 | | | | |
| Managed Fund | 1478.90 | 1556.70 | +10.40 | ... |
| Equity II | 2344.60 | 2468.00 | +7.40 | ... |
| **EAGLE STAR LIFE ASSURANCE** Montpellier Drive, Cheltenham, GL53 7LQ. 01242 221311 | | | | |
| Life Funds | | | | |
| Ul Wth Pfts (58e)‡ | 120.00 | ... | +0.20 | ... |
| Secure (2)‡ | 113.30 | ... | +0.10 | ... |
| Managed (3)‡ | 135.60 | ... | +2.50 | ... |
| Equity Mngd (3)‡ | 135.30 | ... | +3.10 | ... |
| Adventurous (3)‡ | 122.00 | ... | +2.50 | ... |
| Bristol & West (2)‡ | 115.40 | ... | +0.20 | ... |
| Equity Mgd S1 | 328.30 | 345.60 | +7.70 | ... |
| Managed S1 | 326.80 | 344.00 | +6.40 | ... |
| Adventurous S1 | 251.40 | 264.70 | +5.30 | ... |
| Managed (2) | 222.20 | 233.90 | +4.40 | ... |
| Eagle/Mid Uts | 435.30 | 451.10 | +10.30 | 0.01 |
| Pension Funds | | | | |
| Unit With Pfts (5)‡ | 120.40 | ... | +0.20 | ... |
| Secure (2)‡ | 114.60 | ... | +0.10 | ... |
| Managed (2)‡ | 137.00 | ... | +3.20 | ... |
| Equity Mngd (2)‡ | 138.90 | ... | +3.90 | ... |
| Adventurous (2)‡ | 122.20 | ... | +3.10 | ... |
| Bristol & West (2)‡ | 116.90 | ... | +0.10 | ... |
| **FRIENDS' PROVIDENT** Castle Street, Salisbury, Wilts SP1 3SH 01722 413366 | | | | |
| Managed | 440.80 | 464.10 | +7.60 | ... |
| UK Equity | 641.00 | 674.80 | +12.60 | ... |
| Stewardship | 515.00 | 542.20 | +4.90 | ... |
| Overseas Equity | 392.70 | 413.40 | +7.80 | ... |
| North American | 250.20 | 263.40 | +2.10 | ... |
| Pacific Basin | 125.90 | 132.50 | +4.50 | ... |
| European | 403.60 | 424.90 | -10.70 | ... |
| Property | 211.10 | 222.30 | +1.10 | ... |
| Fixed Interest | 305.90 | 322.10 | -0.50 | ... |
| Index Linked | 204.90 | 215.40 | -0.10 | ... |
| Cash | 228.10 | 240.20 | +0.20 | ... |
| FP Life Assurance ex NM | | | | |
| Fixed Interest | 669.50 | 704.70 | -8.70 | ... |
| Managed | 999.70 | 1052.30 | +18.00 | ... |
| Deposit | 391.20 | 411.70 | +0.50 | ... |
| Property | 587.50 | 618.40 | +0.70 | ... |
| American | 704.30 | 741.30 | +6.40 | ... |
| Australian | 665.40 | 700.40 | -2.60 | ... |
| European | 984.60 | 1036.40 | -31.30 | ... |
| Income Acc | 1166.20 | 1227.50 | +23.10 | ... |
| -do- Dis | 629.00 | 661.00 | +15.20 | 3.96 |
| International | 420.50 | 442.60 | +9.10 | ... |
| Japan Smaller | 278.90 | 293.50 | +3.10 | ... |
| Singapore & Mal | 281.70 | 296.50 | -28.20 | ... |
| Tokyo Fund | 561.30 | 590.90 | -5.50 | ... |
| UK Equity | 898.60 | 945.80 | +19.00 | ... |
| CCM Vangd Mv | 1063.50 | 1119.40 | +19.00 | ... |
| **GT GLOBAL FUND MGMT LTD** Alban Gate, 14th Flr, 125 London Wall, Lond EC2Y 5AS. 0171 710 4567 | | | | |
| GT Plan Far East | 242.70 | 255.50 | +18.80 | ... |
| GT Plan Wwide | 603.10 | 637.70 | +10.80 | ... |
| **GAN LIFE & PENSIONS** Gan House, Harlow, Essex CM20 2EW. 01279 626262 | | | | |
| Portfolio Acc | 868.30 | 868.20 | -15.60 | ... |
| -do- Inv A | 868.10 | 913.90 | -16.40 | ... |
| UK Equity | 604.00 | 635.80 | +12.40 | ... |
| Gilt Plus | 247.10 | 260.40 | -0.20 | ... |
| Managed | 397.00 | 418.00 | +7.60 | ... |
| **GENERAL ACCIDENT** 2 Rougier St, York YO1 1HR. 01904 628982 | | | | |
| Managed | 294.10 | 309.40 | +6.10 | ... |
| Unitised Profit | 171.00 | 180.00 | -0.20 | ... |
| UK Equity | 462.00 | 486.20 | +10.80 | ... |
| Fixed Int | 242.40 | 255.10 | -0.50 | ... |
| Index-Linked | 199.20 | 209.60 | -0.20 | ... |
| Cash Deposit | 197.00 | 207.30 | +0.20 | ... |
| Property | 205.20 | 215.90 | +0.30 | ... |
| International | 224.50 | 236.20 | +5.10 | ... |
| American | 284.70 | 299.60 | +2.00 | ... |
| Japan | 181.90 | 191.40 | +3.00 | ... |
| Japan Smllr Cos | 188.30 | 198.10 | +3.10 | ... |
| European | 279.90 | 294.50 | +7.10 | ... |
| Pacific Fund | 199.00 | 209.40 | +17.00 | ... |
| Conv Life | 181.60 | 191.10 | +2.87 | ... |
| Formerly Provident Mutual | | | | |
| Managed Ord | 671.50 | 707.30 | +13.90 | ... |
| Managed Initial | 406.70 | 430.20 | +8.20 | ... |
| Equity Ord | 1169.60 | 1233.10 | +27.50 | ... |
| Equity Init | 710.70 | 748.10 | +16.20 | ... |
| I-Linked Gilt Ord | 242.90 | 255.70 | -0.20 | ... |
| I-Linked Gilt Init | 154.30 | 162.40 | ... | ... |
| Overs Equity Ord | 459.20 | 483.40 | +11.20 | ... |
| Overs Equity Init | 279.30 | 294.00 | +6.80 | ... |
| Property Ord | 318.90 | 335.70 | +0.20 | ... |
| Property Init | 193.90 | 204.10 | ... | ... |
| Fixed Int Ord | 354.60 | 373.10 | -0.50 | ... |
| Fixed Int Init | 215.70 | 227.10 | -0.40 | ... |
| Deposit Ord | 235.10 | 247.50 | -0.20 | ... |
| Deposit Initial | 143.00 | 150.50 | +0.10 | ... |
| **GUARDIAN ROYAL EXCHANGE** Royal Exchange London EC3. 0171 283 7101 | | | | |
| Ass Prop Bds | 980.00 | 1020.90 | ... | ... |
| Managed Initial | 608.00 | 640.00 | +13.00 | ... |
| -do- Acc | 931.20 | 980.30 | +20.50 | ... |
| Equity Initial | 1021.70 | 1075.50 | +24.90 | ... |
| -do- Acc | 1564.80 | 1647.20 | +38.80 | ... |
| Fixed Int Initial | 524.80 | 552.40 | -1.10 | ... |
| -do- Acc | 803.80 | 846.10 | -1.30 | ... |
| Intl Initial | 521.20 | 548.70 | +10.40 | ... |
| -do- Acc | 798.30 | 840.30 | +17.00 | ... |
| Nth Amer Initial | 299.60 | 315.40 | +2.50 | ... |
| -do- Acc | 417.60 | 439.60 | +3.60 | ... |
| Pacific Initial | 158.30 | 166.70 | +7.10 | ... |
| -do- Acc | 218.60 | 230.10 | +9.90 | ... |
| Property Initial | 202.10 | 212.70 | ... | ... |
| -do- Acc | 309.40 | 325.60 | ... | ... |
| Index-Lnkd Initl | 183.40 | 193.10 | -0.10 | ... |
| -do- Acc | 255.60 | 269.10 | ... | ... |
| Deposit Initial | 210.30 | 221.40 | +0.10 | ... |
| -do- Acc | 322.10 | 339.00 | +0.30 | ... |
| Euro Initial | 153.10 | 161.10 | +3.80 | ... |
| -do- Acc | 197.20 | 207.50 | +5.00 | ... |
| **HALIFAX LIFE LTD** PO Box 285, York YO1 1YB 01904 611100 | | | | |
| Life Funds | | | | |
| Foundation | 36.27 | 38.18 | +0.78 | ... |
| Balanced | 36.21 | 38.12 | +0.93 | ... |
| Opportunity | 36.68 | 38.61 | +1.02 | ... |
| Deposit | 26.87 | 28.28 | +0.02 | ... |
| Pension Funds | | | | |
| Foundation S2 | 28.47 | 29.97 | +0.71 | ... |
| Balanced S2 | 28.91 | 30.43 | +0.77 | ... |
| Opportunity S2 | 28.39 | 29.88 | +0.94 | ... |
| Deposit S2 | 25.32 | 26.65 | +0.04 | ... |
| **HAMBRO ASSURED** Harbour House, Portway, Preston, Lancs PR2 2PR. 01772 640000 | | | | |
| Managed | 237.50 | 250.00 | +5.30 | ... |
| -do- Pens | 313.50 | 329.90 | +8.70 | ... |
| UK Equity | 276.10 | 290.60 | +6.50 | ... |
| -do- Pens | 347.20 | 365.40 | +10.40 | ... |
| International | 182.30 | 191.80 | +4.70 | ... |
| -do- Pens | 203.60 | 214.30 | +6.30 | ... |
| Deposit | 158.10 | 166.40 | +0.20 | ... |
| -do- Pens | 194.70 | 204.90 | +0.20 | ... |
| For Hill Samuel see Abbey Life Assurance | | | | |
| **IRISH LIFE ASSURANCE** Irish Life Centre, Victoria Street, St Albans, Herts AL1 3TF. 01727 48181 | | | | |
| Global Managed | 805.20 | 847.60 | +15.10 | ... |
| Global Property | 352.10 | 370.60 | +1.00 | ... |
| Global Fixed Int | 658.10 | 692.70 | -0.90 | ... |
| Global Equity | 882.80 | 929.30 | +19.90 | ... |
| Global Cash | 242.80 | 255.60 | -0.30 | ... |
| **LEGAL & GENERAL UNIT ASSURANCE** 2 Montefiore Road, Hove, Sussex BN3 1SE 01273 324000 | | | | |
| B Soc Lnkd Init | 134.80 | 141.90 | ... | ... |
| -do- Acc | 203.70 | 214.50 | +0.20 | ... |
| Brit Opps Int | 210.20 | 221.30 | +3.40 | ... |
| -do- Acc | 286.60 | 302.00 | +5.20 | ... |
| Cash Initial | 173.30 | 182.40 | -0.40 | ... |
| -do- Acc | 328.00 | 345.30 | +0.20 | ... |
| Equity Initial | 982.80 | 1034.60 | +22.70 | ... |
| -do- Acc | 1860.70 | 1958.70 | +47.70 | ... |
| Fixed Initial | 402.70 | 423.90 | -2.30 | ... |
| -do- Acc | 762.40 | 802.60 | -2.87 | ... |
| Index-Lnkd Gilt | 151.50 | 159.50 | -0.40 | ... |
| -do- Acc | 244.80 | 257.70 | ... | ... |
| Intl Initial | 355.10 | 373.80 | +8.30 | ... |
| -do- Acc | 662.00 | 696.90 | +17.40 | ... |
| Managed Initial | 613.90 | 646.10 | +12.10 | ... |
| -do- Acc | 1162.30 | 1223.50 | +25.90 | ... |
| Property Initial | 237.30 | 249.70 | -0.60 | ... |
| -do- Acc | 449.10 | 472.80 | -0.10 | ... |
| **LINCOLN** The Quays, 101-105 Oxford Road, Uxbridge, Middx UB8 1LZ 01895 200 200 | | | | |
| Equity Units | 1308.20 | ... | +70.00 | ... |
| Property Units | 3320.00 | 3494.00 | ... | ... |
| Bal BC Exec Unit | 9077.00 | 9554.00 | +204.00 | ... |
| 2nd Equity Acc | 981.40 | 1031.00 | +23.00 | ... |
| 2nd High Inc Ac | 952.40 | 1002.00 | +21.00 | ... |
| 2nd Property Acc | 297.50 | 317.10 | ... | ... |
| 2nd Mngd 2 Acc | 219.30 | 230.70 | +0.40 | ... |
| 2nd Mngd 3 Acc | 625.90 | 661.90 | +14.50 | ... |
| 2nd Mngd 4 Acc | 284.80 | 299.70 | +8.00 | ... |
| 2nd Deposit Acc | 321.60 | 338.40 | +0.30 | ... |
| 2nd Gilt Acc | 381.20 | 401.20 | -0.70 | ... |
| 2nd Amer Acc | 1072.00 | 1128.00 | +18.00 | ... |
| 2nd Intl Mny Acc | 250.20 | 263.30 | +0.10 | ... |
| 2nd Index Acc | 248.00 | 261.00 | -0.20 | ... |
| 2nd Far East Acc | 256.00 | 269.40 | +26.70 | ... |
| 2nd Global Acc | 191.60 | 201.60 | +6.20 | ... |
| 2nd Euro Acc | 239.50 | 252.00 | +7.50 | ... |
| 2nd Japan Acc | 121.20 | 127.50 | +3.10 | ... |
| 2nd Int Gr Bd Acc | 178.40 | 187.70 | ... | ... |
| 2nd Cap Gth Acc | 180.00 | 189.30 | +3.40 | ... |
| ex-Laurentian | | | | |
| Property | 633.70 | 667.00 | +0.10 | ... |
| Managed | 565.30 | 594.90 | +13.00 | ... |
| American | 638.40 | 671.90 | +11.00 | ... |
| UK Equity Fd | 711.80 | 749.30 | +16.40 | ... |
| Japan | 133.50 | 140.40 | +3.40 | ... |
| Index-Lnkd | 222.10 | 233.70 | +0.10 | ... |
| High Yield | 1323.90 | 1392.00 | +29.00 | ... |
| Money | 456.90 | 480.80 | +0.50 | ... |
| International | 430.60 | 453.30 | +13.90 | ... |
| Perpetual Active | 407.10 | 428.40 | +8.40 | ... |
| Growth Acc | 884.00 | 930.40 | +20.40 | ... |
| Gilt Edged | 540.10 | 568.40 | -1.00 | ... |
| European | 218.60 | 230.00 | +6.90 | ... |
| Far East | 135.50 | 142.50 | +14.20 | ... |
| **LONDON LIFE** Spectrum, Bond Street, Bristol, BS1 3AL 0117 984 7777 | | | | |
| Equity‡ | 1410.80 | ... | +36.90 | ... |
| Fixed Interest‡ | 559.90 | ... | +0.10 | ... |
| Property‡ | 511.40 | ... | +0.40 | ... |
| Deposit‡ | 337.40 | ... | +0.40 | ... |
| Mixed‡ | 834.80 | ... | +18.30 | ... |
| Indexed Stock‡ | 273.80 | ... | +1.30 | ... |
| International‡ | 539.70 | ... | +8.30 | ... |
| Equity A‡ | 325.90 | ... | +8.50 | ... |
| Fixed Int A‡ | 247.30 | ... | ... | ... |
| Property A‡ | 223.80 | ... | +0.10 | ... |
| Deposit A‡ | 197.40 | ... | +0.10 | ... |
| Mixed A‡ | 273.20 | ... | +6.00 | ... |
| Index Stock A‡ | 213.50 | ... | +1.10 | ... |
| International A‡ | 209.40 | ... | +5.10 | ... |
| Equity P‡ | 1264.40 | ... | +39.80 | ... |
| Fixed Int P‡ | 777.40 | ... | +0.70 | ... |
| Property P‡ | 392.30 | ... | +3.50 | ... |
| Deposit P‡ | 407.40 | ... | -0.60 | ... |
| Mixed P‡ | 810.50 | ... | +21.10 | ... |
| Index Stock P‡ | 315.70 | ... | +1.60 | ... |
| International P‡ | 411.60 | ... | +12.80 | ... |
| **LONDON & MANCHESTER ASSCE** Winslade Park, Exeter EX5 1DS. 01392 282456 | | | | |
| Inv Trust Cap‡ | 651.00 | ... | +12.50 | ... |
| -do- Acc‡ | 1255.50 | ... | +25.00 | ... |
| Property Cap‡ | 141.70 | ... | +2.60 | ... |
| -do- Acc‡ | 260.30 | ... | +5.00 | ... |
| Fxd Interest Cap‡ | 217.00 | ... | -0.10 | ... |
| -do- Acc‡ | 402.20 | ... | +0.20 | ... |
| Equity Cap‡ | 443.80 | ... | +10.60 | ... |
| -do- Acc‡ | 838.90 | ... | +20.90 | ... |
| Internatl Cap‡ | 253.30 | ... | +5.10 | ... |
| -do- Acc‡ | 472.70 | ... | +9.90 | ... |
| Gtd Deposit Cap‡ | 159.20 | ... | -0.10 | ... |
| -do- Acc‡ | 293.00 | ... | +0.20 | 7.20 |
| Flexible Cap‡ | 426.10 | ... | +8.20 | ... |
| -do- Acc‡ | 801.60 | ... | +16.00 | ... |
| Moneymaker Fd‡ | 604.30 | ... | +9.70 | ... |
| Capital Growth‡ | 2715.00 | ... | +64.40 | ... |
| **M & G** Victoria Road, Chelmsford, Essex CM1 1FB 01245 266266 | | | | |
| Amer Bond Acc | 685.60 | 719.90 | +19.30 | ... |
| Amer Rec Bond | 795.00 | 834.80 | +25.60 | ... |
| Am Smlr Cos Bd | 339.10 | 356.10 | +7.60 | ... |
| Australasia Bd | 293.80 | 308.60 | -6.30 | ... |
| Commodity Bond | 327.50 | 343.90 | -0.20 | ... |
| Deposit Bond Acc | 409.80 | 430.40 | +0.60 | ... |
| Equity Bond Acc | 2136.20 | 2243.10 | +44.60 | ... |
| European Bd Acc | 621.40 | 652.50 | +17.60 | ... |
| Extra Yld Bd Acc | 1173.20 | 1232.00 | +28.60 | ... |
| Gilt Bond Acc | 567.90 | 596.40 | -1.40 | ... |
| Gold Bond Acc | 117.90 | 123.90 | -1.00 | ... |
| High Yield Bond | 477.80 | 501.80 | +20.70 | ... |
| Index-Lnk Gt Bd | 251.00 | 263.60 | -0.40 | ... |
| International Bd | 917.40 | 963.30 | +31.20 | ... |
| Japan Bond Acc | 164.00 | 172.30 | +2.80 | ... |
| Japan Sm Cos Ac | 172.40 | 181.10 | -1.30 | ... |
| Managed Bonds | 1176.00 | 1234.90 | +23.10 | ... |
| Prop Bond Acc | 588.10 | 617.60 | -7.90 | ... |
| Rec Bond Acc | 1125.40 | 1181.80 | +25.00 | ... |
| S East Asia Bd Acc | 254.10 | 266.90 | +28.00 | ... |
| **MGM ASSURANCE** MGM House, Heene Road, Worthing BN11 2DY. 01903 204631 | | | | |
| UK Equity | 332.90 | 350.50 | +7.00 | ... |
| UK Equity Acc | 524.80 | 552.50 | +11.40 | ... |
| Special Sits | 140.70 | 148.20 | +3.20 | ... |
| Special Sits Acc | 221.80 | 233.50 | +5.00 | ... |
| North American | 280.00 | 294.80 | +1.80 | ... |
| N American Acc | 441.50 | 464.80 | +3.20 | ... |
| Pacific Basin | 274.70 | 289.20 | +15.00 | ... |
| Pacific Basin Acc | 433.10 | 455.90 | +24.00 | ... |
| Fixed Interest | 325.70 | 342.90 | -0.70 | ... |
| Fixed Interest Acc | 514.00 | 541.10 | -0.80 | ... |
| Property | 199.90 | 210.50 | ... | ... |
| Property Acc | 315.60 | 332.30 | -0.40 | ... |
| Deposit | 156.90 | 165.20 | +0.10 | ... |
| Deposit Acc | 247.60 | 260.70 | +0.20 | ... |
| Managed | 341.60 | 359.60 | +6.30 | ... |
| Managed Acc | 496.30 | 522.40 | +9.60 | ... |
| **MERCHANT INVESTORS** St Bartholomews House, Lewins Mead, Bristol BS1 2NH 0117 9266 366 | | | | |
| Property | 482.90 | 508.30 | +0.30 | ... |
| UK Equity | 573.90 | 604.10 | +14.60 | ... |
| Gilt Edged | 790.80 | 832.40 | -1.50 | ... |
| Interest Fund | 456.30 | 480.30 | +0.50 | ... |
| Managed Fd | 648.30 | 682.40 | +12.30 | ... |
| Intl Equity | 731.30 | 769.70 | +14.90 | ... |
| North American | 337.80 | 355.50 | +3.40 | ... |
| Far East | 361.80 | 380.80 | +18.10 | ... |
| Intl Currency | 272.30 | 286.60 | -0.10 | ... |
| **NPI** 48 Gracechurch Street, London EC3P 3HH 0171 623 4200 | | | | |
| Managed | 678.00 | 713.60 | +13.98 | ... |
| UK Equity | 1014.60 | 1067.90 | +24.8[illegible] | ... |
| Overseas Equity | 556.50 | 585.70 | +17.9[illegible] | ... |
| American | 628.30 | 661.30 | +11.2[illegible] | ... |
| Far East | 446.10 | 469.50 | +29.6[illegible] | ... |
| Property | 245.10 | 258.00 | -0.1[illegible] | ... |
| Fixed Interest | 493.10 | 519.00 | -1.1[illegible] | ... |
| Indexed Gilt | 285.00 | 300.00 | ... | ... |
| Deposit | 247.80 | 260.80 | +0.[illegible]0 | ... |
| **NAT WEST LIFE ASSCE LTD** PO Box [illegible], Trinity Quay, Bristol BS99 5LJ 0117 940 4040 | | | | |
| Growth Mgd Pens | 189.60 | 199.30 | +3.[illegible]0 | ... |
| **NORWICH UNION LIFE INSURANCE SOCIETY - Ex NUAM Funds** PO Box 140, Norwich NR3 1PP 01603 622200 | | | | |
| Managed Fund | 2103.10 | 2213.80 | +37.70 | ... |
| Equity Fund | 5027.20 | 5291.80 | +101.40 | ... |
| Property Fd | 756.50 | 796.30 | +0.60 | ... |
| Fixed Int Fd | 776.30 | 817.20 | -2.60 | ... |
| Deposit Fund | 402.80 | 424.00 | +0.50 | ... |
| Intl Fund | 328.60 | 345.80 | +6.70 | ... |
| **OLD MUTUAL** 2 Bartley Way, Hook, Hants RG27 9XA 01256 768888 | | | | |
| Equity Fund Acc | 455.60 | 480.90 | +11.60 | ... |
| Fxd Interest Acc | 311.60 | 328.70 | -0.80 | ... |
| International Acc | 318.80 | 336.30 | +7.70 | ... |
| Managed Acc | 298.60 | 315.00 | +7.00 | ... |
| Property Acc | 224.70 | 237.10 | +0.30 | ... |
| Money Acc | 174.20 | 183.80 | +0.20 | ... |
| Spec Sits Acc | 246.40 | 260.00 | +6.60 | ... |
| Japan Equity Acc | 83.60 | 88.20 | +2.50 | ... |
| N Amer Acc | 263.00 | 277.50 | +4.70 | ... |
| Pacific Acc | 104.20 | 110.00 | +5.40 | ... |
| European Acc | 303.80 | 320.50 | +5.40 | ... |
| **PEARL ASSURANCE** The Pearl Centre, Lynch Wood, Peterborough PE2 6FY. 01733 470 470 | | | | |
| Inv Prop Dist | 145.90 | 153.60 | +0.40 | ... |
| Prop Acc (Gross) | 377.00 | 396.90 | +1.10 | ... |
| Inv Equity | 1986.90 | 2091.50 | +46.40 | ... |
| Inv Managed | 1250.20 | 1316.10 | +27.00 | ... |
| Ret Managed | 1476.30 | 1554.10 | +29.50 | ... |
| **PRUDENTIAL** Holborn Bars, London EC1N 2NH 01189 578334 | | | | |
| Managed | 496.60 | 517.30 | +15.00 | ... |
| **PRUDENTIAL INDIVIDUAL LIFE FDS** 1 Stephen Street, London W1P 2AP 0171 548 3278 | | | | |
| Managed Fund | 1113.40 | 1172.00 | +26.00 | ... |
| Equity Fund | 2548.70 | 2682.90 | +68.30 | ... |
| Intl Fund | 790.40 | 832.10 | +13.00 | ... |
| Fixed Interest | 707.60 | 744.90 | -1.10 | ... |
| Property Fund | 554.50 | 583.70 | +0.60 | ... |
| Cash Fund | 414.20 | 436.00 | +0.40 | ... |
| Pacific Basin | 273.30 | 287.70 | +13.80 | ... |
| N American Fd | 467.90 | 492.60 | +8.90 | ... |
| Euro Fund | 477.30 | 502.50 | +13.30 | ... |
| Balanced Fund | 220.00 | 231.60 | +5.30 | ... |
| Strategic Fund | 247.50 | 260.60 | +6.20 | ... |
| **ROYAL HERITAGE LIFE ASSURANCE** Peterborough Business Park, Peterborough PE2 6GG. 01733 390800 | | | | |
| Mult Grow (4S)‡ | 1079.70 | ... | +48.50 | ... |
| -do- Acc | 533.20 | 561.30 | ... | ... |
| Op Prop | 560.10 | 589.60 | +0.40 | ... |
| Op Equity | 1551.00 | 1632.60 | +36.30 | ... |
| Op High Yield | 767.00 | 807.40 | +15.20 | ... |
| Op Managed | 1126.60 | 1185.90 | +21.50 | ... |
| Op Deposit | 445.40 | 468.80 | +1.10 | ... |
| Japan Smlr | 127.30 | 134.00 | +0.50 | ... |
| Managed Gth | 374.30 | 394.00 | +7.50 | ... |
| British | 593.80 | 625.00 | +23.30 | ... |
| Global Bond | 128.10 | 134.80 | +1.40 | ... |
| Gold Share | 66.90 | 70.40 | +2.70 | ... |
| Japan | 287.70 | 302.80 | -0.30 | ... |
| UK Smlr Cos | 666.30 | 701.40 | +25.50 | ... |
| Mngd Growth | 649.70 | 683.90 | +8.40 | ... |
| **ROYAL LIFE INSURANCE** New Hall Place, Liverpool L69 3HS 0151 239 3000 | | | | |
| Royal Life Unit Linked | | | | |
| Managed Fund | 545.80 | 574.30 | +9.80 | ... |
| **SAVE & PROSPER** 16-22 Western Road, Romford, Essex RM1 3LB. 01708 766966 | | | | |
| Bal Inv Fund | 103.50 | 109.60 | +0.70 | 2.27 |
| Deposit Fund (2) | 432.30 | 457.00 | +0.60 | 7.10 |
| Gilt Fund | 666.10 | 705.80 | -1.10 | 7.32 |
| Global Equity Fd | 286.80 | 303.50 | +5.50 | ... |
| Property Fund (4S) | 134.80 | 142.70 | +0.20 | 6.66 |
| **SCOTTISH AMICABLE** 150 St Vincent Street, Glasgow 0141 248 2323 | | | | |
| Equity | 918.20 | 966.60 | +21.10 | ... |
| Fixed Interest | 459.80 | 484.10 | +0.60 | ... |
| Index-Linked | 236.10 | 248.60 | -0.10 | ... |
| International | 532.70 | 560.80 | +9.00 | ... |
| Property | 352.80 | 371.40 | ... | ... |
| Cash | 259.40 | 273.10 | +0.10 | ... |
| Managed | 630.50 | 663.70 | +9.40 | ... |
| Cap Gteed Bd | 193.30 | 203.40 | -5.20 | ... |
| 95% Safeguard | 114.00 | ... | +1.10 | ... |
| 100% Safeguard | 101.20 | ... | +0.50 | ... |
| Wealth Pres Cap | 116.40 | ... | +2.20 | ... |
| Wealth Pres Inc | 77.00 | ... | +0.40 | ... |
| BonusBond‡ | 106.50 | ... | +2.70 | ... |
| **SCOTTISH EQUITABLE** 28 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 1YF 0131 556 9101 | | | | |
| Cash | 206.84 | 217.73 | +0.20 | ... |
| Index-Linked | 202.80 | 213.50 | +0.10 | ... |
| Fixed Interest | 232.40 | 245.10 | -0.40 | ... |
| Mixed | 367.90 | 387.40 | +6.80 | ... |
| UK Equity | 374.90 | 394.60 | +6.30 | ... |
| International | 340.90 | 358.90 | +7.00 | ... |
| American | 476.30 | 501.30 | +1.70 | ... |
| Japan | 185.90 | 195.70 | +2.27 | ... |
| European | 435.20 | 458.10 | +11.60 | ... |
| Pacific | 282.80 | 297.70 | +17.90 | ... |
| Technology | 620.00 | 652.60 | +22.00 | ... |
| Frgn Bd/Crcy | 248.20 | 261.20 | -0.20 | ... |
| **SCOTTISH LIFE INVESTMENTS** 19 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 1YE 0131 225 2211 | | | | |
| Property | 265.10 | 279.10 | +0.20 | ... |
| UK Equity | 600.10 | 631.80 | +19.30 | ... |
| American | 418.20 | 440.30 | +8.90 | ... |
| Pacific | 297.90 | 313.70 | +17.80 | ... |
| European | 712.50 | 750.10 | +20.20 | ... |
| Global Mgd | 377.70 | 397.70 | +13.40 | ... |
| Fixed Interest | 308.90 | 325.10 | +0.50 | ... |
| Index Linked | 244.10 | 257.00 | +0.80 | ... |
| Deposit | 222.50 | 234.30 | +0.30 | ... |
| Managed | 410.30 | 432.00 | +11.30 | ... |
| Worldwide | 136.60 | 143.90 | -2.70 | ... |
| Pen Worldwide | 147.30 | 155.10 | +4.20 | ... |
| **SCOTTISH MUTUAL ASSURANCE** 109 St Vincent Street, Glasgow G2 5HN 0141 248 6321 | | | | |
| Flex Fund (3S) | 2330.00 | 2402.10 | ... | ... |
| Safety Fund | 311.70 | 328.10 | +1.40 | ... |
| Growth Fund | 331.60 | 349.10 | +7.60 | ... |
| Opportunity Fd | 338.90 | 356.80 | +7.10 | ... |
| Cash Fund | 197.50 | 207.90 | -0.10 | ... |
| European Fund | 553.70 | 582.90 | +12.20 | ... |
| Gilts & Fxd Inc | 265.70 | 279.70 | -1.20 | ... |
| Index-Linked Fd | 224.20 | 236.10 | +0.40 | ... |
| International Fd | 343.10 | 361.20 | +10.50 | ... |
| North American | 416.70 | 438.70 | +10.30 | ... |
| Property Fund | 139.20 | 146.60 | -0.10 | ... |
| UK Equity | 396.80 | 417.70 | +10.00 | ... |
| UK Smaller | 331.40 | 348.90 | -2.70 | ... |
| **SCOTTISH PROVIDENT** 6 St Andrews Square, Edinburgh EH2 2YA 0131 556 9181 | | | | |
| Mixed | 383.80 | 404.10 | +7.30 | ... |
| Equity | 449.50 | 473.20 | +8.40 | ... |
| International | 339.60 | 357.60 | +7.10 | ... |
| Property | 269.80 | 284.10 | +0.30 | ... |
| Fixed Interest | 321.00 | 338.00 | +1.50 | ... |
| Index Linked | 224.90 | 236.80 | ... | ... |
| Cash | 209.80 | 221.00 | +0.20 | ... |
| Formerly Prolific | | | | |
| Bal Gwth Mngd | 1141.10 | 1214.00 | +23.90 | ... |
| Cash Fund | 383.10 | 403.70 | +0.30 | ... |
| Property Fund | 349.40 | 368.20 | -0.30 | ... |
| Equity Fund | 1145.80 | 1219.00 | +29.60 | ... |
| Fxd Interest Fund | 632.00 | 666.00 | +3.60 | ... |
| International | 481.30 | 512.10 | +10.30 | ... |
| High Income | 1142.30 | 1215.30 | +24.30 | ... |
| Far East | 457.80 | 487.10 | +24.40 | ... |
| North American | 928.10 | 987.40 | +22.20 | ... |
| Special Sits | 1013.20 | 1077.90 | +19.20 | ... |
| Technology | 1126.80 | 1198.80 | +47.70 | ... |
| Extra Income Fd | 613.30 | 652.70 | +12.40 | ... |
| Gilt Fund | 560.30 | 596.10 | +0.70 | ... |
| European | 234.00 | 249.00 | +6.10 | ... |
| Adventurous Mg | 274.00 | 288.80 | +7.50 | ... |
| Secure Mgd | 202.60 | 213.80 | +1.90 | ... |
| Equity Inc Dist | 161.50 | 170.20 | +2.70 | 3.97 |
| Managed Dist | 136.30 | 143.70 | +1.20 | 4.65 |
| Henderson Investment Bonds | | | | |
| UK Equity Fd | 478.60 | 504.40 | +13.10 | ... |
| North America | 564.50 | 600.60 | +14.40 | ... |
| Far East Fund | 459.60 | 489.00 | +24.40 | ... |
| Global Managed | 622.90 | 662.70 | +15.20 | ... |
| Deposit Fund | 258.40 | 272.00 | +0.20 | ... |
| Prime Residential | 148.60 | 156.50 | +0.20 | ... |
| European Fund | 415.10 | 441.70 | +8.80 | ... |
| Fixed Interest | 64.00 | 68.10 | +0.70 | ... |
| **SCOTTISH WIDOWS** PO Box 902, Edinburgh EH16 5BU 0131 655 6000 | | | | |
| Inv Pol 1 | 1477.50 | 1477.50 | +56.30 | ... |
| Inv Pol 2 | 1332.00 | 1402.20 | +53.00 | ... |
| Inv Pol 3 | 1252.80 | 1318.90 | +49.40 | ... |
| Inv Cash | 360.50 | 379.50 | +0.50 | ... |
| Mixed Fund | 637.00 | 670.60 | +13.10 | ... |
| Equity Fund | 852.30 | 897.20 | +21.90 | ... |
| Property Fund | 307.20 | 323.50 | +0.30 | ... |
| International Fd | 585.40 | 616.40 | +7.30 | ... |
| Fixed Interest Fd | 487.10 | 512.90 | -0.80 | ... |
| Indexed Stock Fd | 244.60 | 257.60 | ... | ... |
| Cash Fund | 261.50 | 275.30 | +0.20 | ... |
| **SKANDIA LIFE** Skandia House, Portland Terrace, Southampton SO9 7BX 01703 334411 | | | | |
| Managed Acc | 545.20 | 573.80 | +3.80 | ... |
| Equity Acc | 734.60 | 790.40 | +21.50 | ... |
| International Acc | 406.80 | 428.20 | +4.30 | ... |
| Property | 260.40 | 276.20 | +0.50 | ... |
| **STANDARD LIFE ASSURANCE CO** Standard Life House, 30 Lothian Road, Edinburgh EH1 2DH 0131 225 2552 | | | | |
| Cash | 305.90 | 322.00 | +0.30 | ... |
| Equity | 1684.70 | 1773.40 | +39.00 | ... |
| European | 274.30 | 288.70 | +6.20 | ... |
| Far East | 145.90 | 153.60 | +5.10 | ... |
| Fixed Interest | 513.40 | 540.50 | -1.30 | ... |
| Index Linked | 261.30 | 275.10 | +0.10 | ... |
| International | 713.50 | 751.10 | +16.10 | ... |
| Managed | 1005.10 | 1058.10 | +19.30 | ... |
| Nth American | 237.50 | 250.10 | +3.10 | ... |
| Property | 434.00 | 456.90 | +0.90 | ... |
| Pensions | | | | |
| Cash | 406.60 | 427.80 | +0.70 | ... |
| Equity | 2686.80 | 2828.30 | +77.20 | ... |
| European | 324.80 | 341.90 | +11.30 | ... |
| Far East | 110.80 | 116.70 | +5.20 | ... |
| Fixed Interest | 754.30 | 794.10 | -2.00 | ... |
| Index Linked | 378.60 | 397.80 | ... | ... |
| International | 1086.50 | 1143.70 | +35.60 | ... |
| Managed | 1540.30 | 1621.80 | +41.80 | ... |
| Nth American | 334.40 | 352.00 | +5.90 | ... |
| Property | 660.70 | 695.50 | +3.50 | ... |
| Stock Exchange | 342.30 | 360.40 | +9.90 | ... |
| **SUN ALLIANCE** St Marks Court, Horsham, Sussex 01403 232323 | | | | |
| Managed Fund | 1041.30 | 1096.10 | +21.90 | ... |
| Equity Fund | 1498.20 | 1577.10 | +45.30 | ... |
| Fixed Interest Fd | 530.00 | 557.90 | +0.60 | ... |
| Index-Linked Fd | 401.00 | 422.10 | +0.70 | ... |
| Property Fund | 607.60 | 639.60 | -0.70 | ... |
| International Fd | 944.30 | 994.00 | +16.70 | ... |
| N American Fd | 495.00 | 521.10 | +7.30 | ... |
| Far East Fund | 208.70 | 219.70 | +10.60 | ... |
| Deposit Fund | 344.20 | 362.30 | -0.40 | ... |
| Intnl Bd‡ | [illegible] | ... | [illegible] | ... |
| Worldwide Bond | 171.30 | 180.30 | -0.30 | ... |
| European | 299.70 | 315.50 | +6.80 | ... |
| Phoenix Assurance | | | | |
| Wealth Assured | 1055.50 | 1111.10 | +22.30 | ... |
| Ebor Phoenix Eq | 665.00 | 732.60 | ... | ... |
| Property Growth | | | | |
| Property Fund‡ | 715.00 | ... | +0.90 | ... |
| -do- Acc‡ | 659.30 | ... | +0.80 | ... |
| Agricultural Fd‡ | 947.40 | ... | +1.00 | ... |
| -do- Acc‡ | 900.60 | ... | +0.80 | ... |
| Abbey Nat Fd‡ | 518.80 | ... | +0.60 | ... |
| Abbey Nat Acc‡ | 542.30 | ... | +0.60 | ... |
| Investment Fd‡ | 361.00 | ... | +11.20 | ... |
| Investment (A)‡ | 535.80 | ... | +10.70 | ... |
| Equity‡ | 2214.00 | ... | +63.80 | ... |
| Equity Acc‡ | 2103.90 | ... | +60.50 | ... |
| Money Fund‡ | 557.00 | ... | +0.60 | ... |
| -do- Acc‡ | 528.60 | ... | +0.60 | ... |
| Actuarial Fd‡ | 921.30 | ... | +19.90 | ... |
| Gilt-Edged Fd‡ | 499.60 | ... | -0.60 | ... |
| -do- Acc‡ | 494.60 | ... | +0.60 | ... |
| Retire Annuity‡ | 1486.60 | ... | +1.80 | ... |
| Immed Annuity‡ | 301.00 | ... | ... | ... |
| Bldg Soc Life‡ | 259.60 | ... | +0.20 | ... |
| **SUN LIFE OF CANADA** Basing View, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 2DZ Dealing: 01256 841414 | | | | |
| Growth Acc‡ | 2350.60 | ... | +88.60 | ... |
| Managed Acc‡ | 1212.90 | ... | +19.60 | ... |
| Equity Account‡ | 1995.10 | ... | +35.40 | ... |
| Mngd Fund Acc | 549.10 | 578.00 | +9.30 | ... |
| Equity Fund Acc | 837.40 | 881.50 | +15.90 | ... |
| Prop Fund Acc | 329.10 | 346.50 | +0.40 | ... |
| Fixed Int Fd Acc | 414.70 | 436.50 | -0.10 | ... |
| Money Fund Acc | 250.90 | 264.10 | +0.20 | ... |
| Indx-Lnk Sec Acc | 250.20 | 263.40 | -1.30 | ... |
| Pers Pens Acct‡ | 2842.40 | ... | +116.10 | ... |
| Pens Mngd Acct | 1321.00 | 1390.50 | +36.60 | ... |
| Pens Guarantee | 325.80 | 342.90 | +0.60 | ... |
| Pens Equity | 568.10 | 598.00 | +28.80 | ... |
| Pens Property | 382.10 | 402.20 | +1.10 | ... |
| Pens Fixed Int | 414.40 | 436.20 | +0.80 | ... |
| Pens Intl | 311.90 | 328.40 | +14.90 | ... |
| Pens Money | 280.10 | 294.80 | +0.30 | ... |
| Pens Indx-Lnkd | 249.70 | 262.90 | +0.30 | ... |
| **SUN LIFE UNIT** St James Barton, Bristol BS99 7SL 0117 9426911 | | | | |
| Managed Acc | 1245.70 | 1311.30 | +20.30 | ... |
| Property Acc | 480.70 | 506.10 | -0.10 | ... |
| Equity Acc | 2318.30 | 2440.40 | +58.80 | ... |
| Fixed Int Acc | 530.60 | 558.60 | -0.80 | ... |
| Cash Acc | 383.10 | 403.20 | +0.30 | ... |
| Amer Equity Acc | 650.60 | 684.90 | +13.70 | ... |
| Japan Acc | 207.70 | 218.70 | +5.50 | ... |
| Pacific Acc | 282.20 | 297.20 | +22.50 | ... |
| Far Eastern Acc | 638.00 | 671.60 | +36.10 | ... |
| International Acc | 702.60 | 739.60 | +19.90 | ... |
| Distribution Fund | 356.10 | 374.90 | +2.00 | 5.34 |
| European | 292.20 | 307.70 | +7.30 | ... |
| Dollar Dist | 245.00 | 257.90 | +3.60 | ... |
| **TSB LIFE LTD** Charlton Place, Andover, Hants SP10 1RE 01264 345678 | | | | |
| Managed Fund | 401.60 | 422.80 | +9.00 | ... |
| Property Fund | 237.80 | 250.40 | +0.40 | ... |
| Fixed Interest Fd | 281.20 | 296.00 | -0.50 | ... |
| Money Fund | 229.00 | 241.10 | +0.20 | ... |
| Equity Fund | 546.00 | 574.90 | +14.30 | ... |
| **WINDSOR LIFE** Windsor House, Telford, Shropshire 01952 292929 | | | | |
| Managed Bond | 995.30 | 1047.60 | +19.60 | ... |
| Money Fund | 267.40 | 281.40 | +0.40 | ... |
| Equity Fund | 973.90 | 1025.10 | +15.50 | ... |
| Fixed Interest | 359.20 | 378.10 | -1.60 | ... |
| Property Fund | 452.30 | 476.70 | -0.70 | ... |
| Gresham Framlington | | | | |
| American & Gnd | 831.60 | 875.30 | +17.30 | ... |
| Income | 1124.60 | 1183.70 | +17.20 | ... |
| International Gth | 799.80 | 841.90 | +23.90 | ... |
| Capital Fund | 848.50 | 893.70 | +12.90 | ... |
| Recovery Fund | 578.80 | 609.20 | +11.60 | ... |
| Japan & General | 192.60 | 202.70 | +0.40 | ... |
| Formerly ABtrust | | | | |
| Life Funds | | | | |
| Squirrel | 20.64 | 21.72 | +0.02 | ... |
| Bear | 28.75 | 30.26 | +0.18 | ... |
| Owl | 31.58 | 33.24 | +0.41 | ... |
| Bull | 25.45 | 26.78 | +0.40 | ... |
| Stag | 24.33 | 25.66 | +0.48 | ... |
| Gilt Edged | 23.70 | 24.94 | -0.12 | ... |
| Deposit | 17.38 | 18.71 | +0.03 | ... |
| Pensions | | | | |
| Squirrel | 29.26 | 30.79 | +0.05 | ... |
| Bear | 43.22 | 45.49 | +0.38 | ... |
| Owl | 46.37 | 49.02 | +0.74 | ... |
| Bull | 35.24 | 37.09 | +0.61 | ... |
| Stag | 33.22 | 34.96 | +0.35 | ... |
| Gilt Edged | 31.60 | 33.68 | -0.30 | ... |
| Deposit | 23.98 | 25.24 | +0.04 | ... |
| Pre 1983 Series | | | | |
| 3-Way Fund‡ | ... | 843.05 | +12.45 | ... |
| 1983 Series | | | | |
| UK Equity | 540.78 | 569.24 | +8.56 | ... |
| N Amer Equity | 446.53 | 467.92 | +5.44 | ... |
| Far East Equity | 311.61 | 328.01 | +23.52 | ... |
| Fixed | 379.32 | 399.28 | -1.83 | ... |
| Cash Deposit | 233.95 | 246.26 | +0.28 | ... |
| Property | 192.97 | 203.12 | -0.32 | ... |
| Special Opp | 472.90 | 497.88 | +9.33 | ... |
| Managed | 442.70 | 466.05 | +6.96 | ... |
| Index-Linked Fd | 230.18 | 242.29 | +0.18 | ... |
| Formerly Crown | | | | |
| Life Mangd Acc | 822.20 | 870.70 | +13.00 | ... |
| Life Fxd Int Acc | 474.60 | 499.50 | -2.37 | ... |
| Life Equity Acc | 1285.00 | 1352.60 | +30.30 | ... |
| Life Money Acc | 340.60 | 358.50 | +0.40 | ... |
| Life Inv Tst Acc | 1088.20 | 1145.40 | +17.10 | ... |
| Life Intl Acc | 565.00 | 594.70 | +16.90 | ... |
| Life High Inc Acc | 1283.10 | 1350.60 | +21.70 | ... |
| Life Property Acc | 303.60 | 319.60 | -0.60 | ... |
| Brewin Equity | 990.10 | 1042.20 | +45.50 | ... |

*Some quoted prices in both ... Halifax Unit Trust Management Limited Registered in England No. 772008. Registered office: Trinity Road, Halifax, West Yorkshire HX1 2RG. Regulated by ...

هكذا من الأصل



John Givens on one of the key issues facing the self-employed

# High or low, be sure that your price is right

## GO IT ALONE

One of the biggest tasks facing you when you set up in business will be to decide on a price list for the goods or services you offer. Do you set the price lower than the competition in the hope that you will win business, or do you price higher to try to impress upon potential customers that the quality you offer is better than the rest?

Setting your prices higher than the competition is known among the marketing fraternity as price skimming or prestige pricing and is designed to appeal to potential customers with high incomes or those looking to enjoy the satisfaction of buying a high-price product.

However, higher pricing can also apply where your business is offering a product or service which has a genuine quality or technical advantage over the competition, or which has a novelty value.

Numerous household brands have made capital out of marketing the perceived quality of their products through high pricing. Levi's jeans, for example, have built a reputation for being the best through a series of hard-hitting, high-profile advertising campaigns which have acquired almost cult status. Cheaper brands may be just as well made, but because they are less expensive the perception among discerning customers is that they are of inferior quality.

Add to this the "feel-good" factor, when people get a buzz out of owning an expensive brand such as Gucci or BMW, and the case for setting the cost of what you offer at the higher end of the scale can often make sense.

Pricing high will also bring some problems. One thing that inevitably happens is that high prices attract competitors eager for a slice of the cake and your niche could quickly be invaded by those offering an equally good or better product or service at a lower price.

Similarly, if you are pricing high because what you are offering is unique in its market, the chances are it will not remain unique for long. People will be quick to copy your service or product and take a share of your market.

If you are pricing above the market you will need to offer a unique selling point that your competitors cannot match. This can be anything from a better quality of service to free delivery, or simply the fact that you are the only supplier in the area and buying elsewhere will be more inconvenient for customers.

Although it might seem odd, pricing your goods or services lower than people might normally expect can backfire. This is because customers often equate the quality of what they are buying to the cost: so a cheap option might send out signals that the product is not as good as others. Setting your prices lower than the competition has the obvious advantages of appealing to people who need to budget carefully, or who like a bargain, and will give you a good chance of increasing sales.

In many markets it is easy to get away with competitive pricing because you might be selling exactly the same product as the business next door, so the perceived quality and "feel-good" factors cease to exist.

Therefore, an off-licence selling a branded bottle of whisky for 50p less than the competition is likely to attract extra sales of the brand and also generate increased turnover from sales of other goods that a customer might buy while in the shop.

However, apart from damaging the customer's perception of the quality of your product, selling at low prices can cause other problems. The first is that it might trigger a price war among your competitors, with everyone undercutting everyone else in an attempt to make sales.

This can be very dangerous, especially if you have a higher cost base than your competitors. It might get to the point where you cannot drop your prices any further without making a loss; at which point you might as well not be in business at all.

Even dropping prices to as near to break-even as possible may cause problems that will be difficult to solve. Once your customers are used to buying from you at a certain price, getting them to pay more in the future could be an impossible task, with the criticism of your price rises potentially damaging to your business.

Whatever happens, you should always look to at least cover your costs. If you are just doing this but are still too expensive, it could be that your costs are too high. Alternatively, it might be that your buying power is too small, a situation which affects thousands of small companies that cannot afford to buy in large quantities and benefit from the reduced cost per unit. The best example of this is the supermarket versus the corner shop.

When deciding what you will charge it is important not to rely only on your costs as a basis for calculation. Many people work out a cost per unit and then add on a profit margin in the belief that this is a sound indicator of the price at which they can expect their goods or services to sell.

However, it is surprisingly difficult to work out what it costs to produce an item, and in any case, knowing the cost of an item tells you nothing about whether customers will buy it at that price or pay much more for it.

As a simple guide, there are five main considerations for setting a price, each one of which needs to be carefully looked at before making any pricing decisions. The five points are:

- ☐ How your product or service compares to the competition.
- ☐ How price conscious your customers are.
- ☐ The image that price conveys to customers.
- ☐ Your position in the market.
- ☐ The life cycle of your product — is it a new or old product or service?

Before setting sales prices, analyse all parts of your market and your competitors', and remember it is probably easier to reduce prices if you are not attracting customers than it is to increase prices if you are selling too cheaply.

If you have more than one product it could be that sales are interlinked, either because they are competing with each other or because they complement each other. If products compete, you need to make sure there is a recognisable gap in the prices if one is of a better quality than the other.

Where products complement one another — if you sell one there might be scope to set a high price for the complementary product, making sure that it is not so blatant that buyers are put off.



Levi's jeans are a well-known example of prestige pricing


Newton. No. 1 since PEPs began. No. 1 as PEPs come to an end.

Quartile Ranking over the following time periods*.

| | 1 year | 3 years | 5 years |
|---|---|---|---|
| Newton European | 1st | 1st | 1st |
| Newton General | 1st | 1st | 1st |
| Newton Higher Income | 1st | 1st | 3rd |
| Newton Income | 1st | 2nd | 1st |
| Newton International Growth | 1st | 1st | 2nd |
| Newton Japan | 1st | 1st | 1st |
| Newton Oriental | 1st | 2nd | 2nd |

Can you afford to ignore Newton performance?

- The Newton Income PEP has ranked No 1 unit trust PEP over ALL unit trust PEPs since PEPs were launched*
- Last year's performance: Newton European Fund up 28%; Newton Higher Income Fund up 24%; Newton Income Fund up 23%*
- Our aim: ALL Newton PEPs ISA transferable
- And don't just take our word for it:

Forbes
In-house research and sell discipline prove the key
Newton succeeds

Newton Higher Income vs sector average

"Newton... is using... in-house equity research to achieve outperformance. Over the last three years the [Higher Income] fund is up 63.45% and outperformed the sector average by 11.32%..."
Investment Week 6th December 1997

Call us now on the number below, contact your IFA or visit our website.

0800 614 330
8am – 10pm INCLUDING WEEKENDS
e.mail: helpdesk@newton.co.uk

NEWTON

*Source Micropal figures on an offer to bid basis gross income reinvested to 01.01.98. "The Newton Income Fund No 1 unit trust general PEP fund 01.01.87 – 01.01.98. Please remember that the value of units and the income from them can go down as well as up and investors may not get back the full amount invested. The value of overseas investments will be influenced by the rate of exchange. When charges, as for the Newton Higher Income Fund, are taken from the capital of a fund, this may restrain future capital growth. The Government is proposing to abolish PEPs in 1999 when it is intended that the new Individual Savings Account will be launched. Past performance is not necessarily a guide to the future. For your protection calls will usually be recorded and randomly monitored. Newton Fund Managers Limited is regulated by the Personal Investment Authority and IMRO. A member of Ausl. 71 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4V 4DR.

"Newton has a single aim in life: to increase the real wealth of all of our clients."

To: Newton Fund Managers Ltd, FREEPOST, 2 Festival Square, Edinburgh EH3 0BE.
Title ____ Surname ____ First name ____
Address ____ Postcode ____
Daytime Tel ____ Date of Birth ____



Cashing in your Endowment Policy?
More than money.
Market leading prices and service with a free 48 hour quote.
London/South: 01621 852133 Midlands: 0121 709 2500 North: 0113 239 1941 Scotland: 0141 353 6311 Please quote TTBDS
South West: 0117 930 5527
Call today, lines always open.
Beale Dobie & Company Limited, Fulbridge Mill, Maldon, Essex CM9 5FN
Beale Dobie
AP Regulated by the Association of Personal Investment Authority
MM Investment Authority



DIRECT LINE RATES

| SAVINGS RATES | |
|---|---|
| Direct Line Instant Access Account | |

| MORTGAGE RATE | |
|---|---|
| Direct Line Standard Variable Mortgage Rate | |
| VARIABLE RATE | |
| 7.94% | |

| PERSONAL LOAN RATES | |
|---|---|
| Direct Line Personal Loans | |
| AMOUNT OF LOAN | |
| £3,000 | |
| £6,000 | |
| £10,000 | |

All rates correct at 19th January 1998.

0181 667 1121 SAVINGS
0181 649 9099 MORTGAGES
0181 680 9966 PERSONAL LOANS

DIRECT LINE FINANCIAL SERVICES
www.directline.co.uk

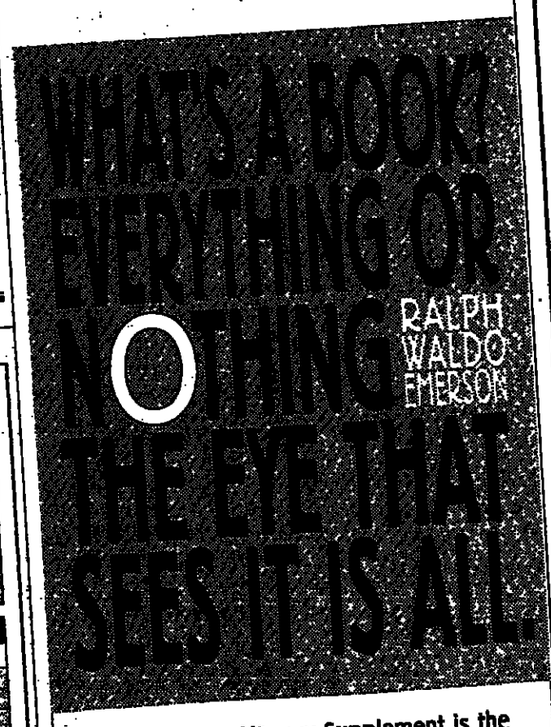
Source: Direct Line Financial Services. For further information about the Direct Line products listed above, please phone the appropriate number quoting ref. TTBB42

Mortgages and savings provided by Direct Line Financial Services Limited, 250 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow G2 5SF. For savings, deposits and withdrawals via your bank account – allow 3 working days. *The gross rate is the rate paid without deduction of income tax and is based on annual payment of interest. Full terms and conditions of the accounts are available on request. For mortgages, security in the form of a first Legal Charge/Standard Security over the property will be required. Direct Line mortgages from £20,000 to £500,000 are available for up to 80% of the property valuation or purchase price, whichever is the lower. Written quotations available on request. Subject to status. All rates quoted above are variable.

YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN SECURED ON IT.

For your added security telephone calls may be recorded and randomly monitored. Direct Line and the red telephone on wheels are trademarks of Direct Line Insurance plc and used with its permission.






The Times Literary Supplement is the indispensable weekly review of the world of literature, politics, history and the arts.

To take advantage of our special subscription rates, simply phone the TLS Credit Card Hotline now, on 0708 378379.

ENTERTAINING CHALLENGING STIMULATING ENJOYABLE TLS

THE TIMES LITERARY SUPPLEMENT



JF JAN INCOME PAID
JF FEB INCOME PAID
JF MAR INCOME PAID
JF APR INCOME PAID
JF MAY INCOME PAID
JF JUN INCOME PAID
JF JUL INCOME PAID
JF AUG INCOME PAID
JF SEP INCOME PAID
JF OCT INCOME PAID
JF NOV INCOME PAID
JF DEC INCOME PAID

7.5%* pa TAX FREE
Monthly income from Johnson Fry.

A high level of tax free income – and monthly income payments too. That's the market leading combination offered by the new Johnson Fry Monthly Income PEP.

If you have £3,000 or more to invest and are looking for a unit trust or PEP investment which aims to offer a good monthly income and manage your capital, call us now on the number below or return the coupon for your copy of the brochure.

0800 783 4343
(Call free 24 hrs)

JF Johnson Fry

Johnson Fry Securities Limited, 20 Regent Street, London SW1Y 4PZ. Internet: http://www.johnsonfry.jfil.co.uk
*Target gross annual yield as at 12 January 1998.

Please send me a copy of your 'Monthly Income PEP' brochure. Return to Johnson Fry, FREEPOST, Bristol BS38 7PT. Telephone 0800 783 4343.
Title ____ Name ____
Address ____ Postcode ____
TM0702M1

Important Note - This advertisement is issued by Johnson Fry Securities Limited, regulated by SFA and a Member of The London Stock Exchange. The value of units and the income from them can go down as well as up and you may not get back the amount you invested. To maintain income, some potential for capital growth may be foregone. We cannot guarantee to sustain current income levels. Securities held may have a higher value than their ultimate maturity value. In particular, any change in interest rates would substantially affect the capital value of the Trust. Because of the initial charge you may lose money if you withdraw in the early years. You should regard an investment in the Trust as a long term investment. PEPs and unit trusts may not be suitable investments for everyone and if you have any doubts you should seek independent advice before investing. The value of the current PEP tax reliefs will depend on your individual circumstances. A consultative paper recently issued by the Government on the new Individual Savings Account (ISA) will, if enacted in its current form, withdraw the tax reliefs available to PEPs from 5 October 1999. It is, however, proposed that PEPs and TESSAs up to a value of £50,000 per person may be transferred into ISAs.
Data Protection Act 1984. Your name will be added to a mailing list which may be used by us or associated companies to keep you well informed of any new and existing products. If you prefer not to receive such details, please tick the box ☐

Invest On-line is a trading name of Royal & Sun Alliance Unit Trust Management Limited, registered in England with No. 2970242, a member of the Royal & Sun Alliance Life & Pensions Marketing Group. The registered office is 1 Bartholomew Lane, London EC2N 2AB. Members of the Royal & Sun Alliance Marketing Group are regulated by the Personal Investment Authority, solely for life assurance, pensions and unit trust business, and by IMRO. For your security all calls are recorded. The value of units, and the income from them, can go down as well as up. The current tax position may change in the future. FTSE® is a joint trade mark of the London Stock Exchange Limited and the Financial Times Limited and are used by FTSE International Limited under licence. The FTSE All-Share is calculated by FTSE International Limited in conjunction with the Institute & Faculty of Actuaries. FTSE International Limited does not sponsor, endorse or promote this product. All copyright in the index value and constituents lies vests in FTSE International Limited. Royal & Sun Alliance has obtained full licence from FTSE International Limited to use such copyright in the creation of this product.

LOWEST PEP charges in the UK.

Just a few words from us could save you a lot of money.

LOWEST PEP charges in the UK.

ROYAL & SUNALLIANCE

Announcing an unrepeatable offer from Invest On-line, the direct investment centre of Royal & SunAlliance. The UK Tracker PEP offers the best value in the All-Share Tracker PEP market for a minimum lump sum investment of £6,000.

The annual management fee is an unbeatable 0.3% with no initial or exit charges.

Also, if you already have a PEP, it is easy to transfer any fund of £10,000 or more. Don't delay, the quicker you transfer, the sooner you could start saving on management charges.

To take advantage of this limited offer, call free now on 0500 100 333 or clip the coupon below for full details. Our friendly and knowledgeable staff will be pleased to answer any questions you may have.

TALK TO US ABOUT THE UK TRACKER PEP FREE ON

0500 100 333

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK 8AM-10PM

FAX NO: 0118 934 8212 E MAIL: invest@rsaonline.co.uk

PLEASE QUOTE COUPON CODE BELOW

Invest On-line, FREEPOST 3479,
CODE: BAQ Reading, Berkshire RG10 9ZZ.

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms..... Forename.....

Surname.....

Address.....

.....

..... Postcode.....

Tel(daytime).....

(home)..... Date of birth...../...../.....

YOUR CALL MAY BE RECORDED FOR YOUR SECURITY.

## Marianne Curphey looks at the main providers of routine medical services

# Patients tested in market for paying to see GPs

PETER NICHOLLS



Doors are opening for those willing to pay for check-ups

Would you pay £50 to see the doctor? A growing number of self-employed professionals appear prepared to do so, as do large firms that offer the service as a perk to their employees.

Paying for private healthcare is not new, but until recently has tended to cover specialist rather than routine care. Nevertheless, the market for paid-for GP consultations is growing and appeals to those who cannot spare time to attend a drop-in GP clinic or find it inconvenient to visit the doctor during working hours.

Some healthcare companies provide a service in the evenings only — others are on call 24 hours a day, 365 days a year and will visit your home within an hour of your call.

There are three main providers: Bupa, SOS Doctors Direct and Sinclair Montrose. The latter believes that 15 million people — or about 27 per cent of the population — would pay to see a doctor, and calculates that if that figure is correct it would have enough business to support 500 of its medicentres around the country, up from six at present.

Although it does not object in principle to the service, the British Medical Association is concerned that any phone lines should be manned by trained GPs, and that records of any treatment should be sent to the patient's family doctor.

A BMA spokeswoman said: "We would like to think that in an ideal world the National Health Service would be able to provide a good service to everyone. We want to make sure that those people manning the phones of existing services are qualified to decide whether a patient needs to be sent to a casualty department. They need to be experienced enough to ask the right questions to gather more information. The other concern is that the GP who is called out will not have your medical notes to hand."

**The main players:**

☐ **Bupa**, the largest healthcare provider in the UK, experimented with a GP service called Health Direct in the Reading area last year. For £6 a month, subscribers could enjoy unlimited medical advice by telephone, 24 hours a day, and a call-out service for £30 a visit. It was not intended to be an out-of-hours emergency service. That pilot finished at the end of last year.

Dr Andrew Vallance-Owen, Bupa's medical director, said: "There does not appear to be demand at the moment for 24-hour GP services or for duplicating the service provided by the National Health Service." Bupa is now piloting a private GP service on weekday evenings in Reading and Wakefield. Customers can visit a doctor between 7pm and 10pm on weekdays. The service is designed for busy professionals who cannot take time off work during the day. Within those hours people can speak on the phone to a doctor. The phone line is free to Bupa members and £6 a month for people who do not have a health insurance policy with Bupa. Additional charges for members and non-members range from £25 to visit a GP at his or her surgery and £35 for a home visit.

**For many people, normal GP hours are just not convenient**

☐ **PPP**, the second-largest private healthcare provider, has just been bought by Guardian Royal Exchange. People who have a medical insurance policy with PPP have access to a 24-hour information line which receives 300 calls a day.

☐ **SOS Doctor Direct**, set up four years ago, provides a 24-hour service for patients at their home, office or hotel within an hour of receiving a call. The charge is £50 a time and the doctor stays for as long as is necessary. At present, the service is available only in London and is supported by a network of ten GPs. The company plans to launch the service in Manchester, Birmingham and Edinburgh this year.

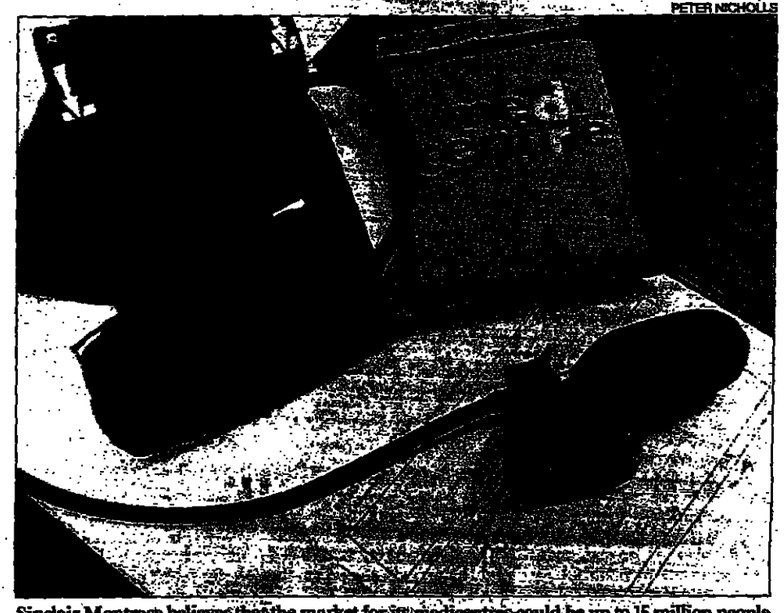
The call-out service is supported by a 24-hour phone line manned by GPs. It is designed to treat minor emergencies, according to Andrew Rae-McCance, the founder. However, he says it has been known for doctors to be called out "to treat a case of severe indigestion and find when they arrive that the patient has in fact had a heart attack".

The phone line is open every day of the year and Mr Rae-McCance says doctors visit 2,000 patients a month. "We have 30,000 registered patients in London and all the GPs we use are experienced in emergencies and trauma as well as routine ailments," he said.

Businesses have signed up for the service, so that employees can be treated on site. Mr Rae-McCance said: "For many people, the normal GP clinic hours are just not convenient. Typically today we have treated 29 cases of flu, five cases of gastroenteritis, two children were sent to hospital for further tests after having very high temperatures for a long period, plus we had a few sore throats."

☐ **Sinclair Montrose** has drop-in medicentres at Victoria, Euston and Waterloo railway stations and shopping sites in Sheffield, Gateshead and Dudley. Patients pay an average £36 for a 15-minute consultation and from £65 to £250 for a medical check-up. Kate Bleasdale, chief executive, said most patients tended to be "people with busy lifestyles who do not want to take a whole morning off work to see the doctor".

PETER NICHOLLS



Sinclair Montrose believes that the market for its medicentres could be up to 15 million people

STANDARD LIFE BANK™

A first-rate savings account.

7.30% NO NOTICE REQUIRED*

- Excellent tiered rates of interest*
- No notice required and no penalties
- No minimum or maximum deposit
- No limit on the number of withdrawals

0345 55 56 57

Saving has never been simpler

PHONE LINES OPEN MONDAY-FRIDAY 8AM-9PM, SATURDAY 9AM-5PM

*Terms and Conditions available on request. *Gross p.a. - the rate of interest paid yearly without deduction of lower rate tax to eligible non-taxpayers. The rate quoted applies to balances of £50,000 and over. Rates may vary. Standard Life Bank Limited is a company registered in Scotland (number SC173683) Registered Office Standard Life House 30 Lothian Road Edinburgh EH1 2DH. Standard Life Bank Limited is a wholly owned subsidiary of The Standard Life Assurance Company and is a member of the Standard Life Group of companies. For your protection, telephone calls will be recorded. We may also monitor telephone calls to help us improve customer service. Standard Life Bank Limited is a member of the Deposit Protection Scheme established under the Banking Act 1987 (as amended). Payments under the Scheme are limited to 90% of a depositor's total deposits subject to a maximum payment to any one depositor of £18,000 (or ECU 20,000 if greater). Further details of the Scheme are available on request.

PERSONAL PENSIONS

Do you need a pension plan that's ready for life's unexpected turns?

No matter how carefully you plan, life has a habit of presenting us all with unexpected twists and turns. Early retirement; a change of career; children. All these can change your circumstances, so you need a pension plan which is flexible enough to let you cope with any changes - without penalty!

That is why you should consider an Equitable Pension Plan, which:

- Lets you vary contributions - without penalty.
- Lets you retire earlier than planned - without penalty.
- Provides a full return of fund in the event of death before retirement.

The Equitable Life does not pay commission to third parties for the introduction of new business. So, if you'd like to know more, call us direct on (0990) 38 48 58 or send off the coupon below for further information by post and by telephone.

www.equitable.co.uk

For your security your telephone call may be recorded
Information/advice will only be given on Equitable group products
Regulated by the Personal Investment Authority
THE EQUITABLE LIFE, FREEPOST, WALTON STREET, AYLESBURY, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE HP21 7BR

To: The Equitable Life FREEPOST, Walton Street, AYLESBURY, Bucks HP21 7BR
I would welcome details on The Equitable's pension plans. I am self employed ☐ I am an employee not in a company pension scheme ☐ DMPW98

NAME (Mr Mrs Miss)

ADDRESS

Tel: (Office)

Tel: (Home)

Date of Birth

Postcode

We guarantee that no computer outside The Equitable and its subsidiaries will receive these details. If, however, you would prefer to receive no further information from us, please tick this box ☐

Founded 1762

The Equitable Life

You profit from our principles

Source for performance figures: Micropal. Offer to offer, net income reinvested to 1st January 1998. **"28" means top quartile performance over last years in the individual Micropal sector, in the case of UK Capital Growth and International Growth since launch on 1.10.96. In the July 1997 Budget it was announced that tax credits [illegible] benefits may change with the planned introduction of a new Individual Savings Account (ISA). Gartmore will allow free conversion of Gartmore PEPs into Gartmore ISAs when this occurs. Conditions before investing. The value of investments and the income from them may go down as well as up and you may not get back the amount originally invested. Past performance is not a guide to future performance. Emerging markets are volatile and can suffer from liquidity problems. Changes in rates of exchange between currencies may cause the value of investments to decrease or increase. Telephone calls may be recorded. Issued and Approved by Gartmore Investment Limited. Gartmore's authorised unit trusts are managed by Gartmore Fund Managers Limited. Both companies are regulated by IMRO and the Personal Investment Authority and are members of the Nat West and Gartmore Marketing Group. Gartmore House, 16-18 Monument Street, London EC3R 8AJ.

YOUR CALL MAY BE RECORDED FOR YOUR SECURITY.

*Figures quoted relate to both yearly investment and assured PEP investors. Robbie Burt Trust Management Limited, Registered in England No. 2970242, Registered office Thistle Street, [illegible]

ROBIN MAYES



Picking the best of the bunch is crucial because while one pension provider's returns may bloom, another's may disappoint

# Surprise on pensions

## Retirement savings schemes compare well with Peps, according to new research, says Marianne Curphey

**TO THE delight of consumers, but to the annoyance of companies that perform badly, the trend towards best-buy and worst-buy listings of complex schemes such as personal equity plans and pensions is growing. After last month's list of "dog" Pep funds from BESt Investment, this week *Which?* magazine publishes its research into the Pep market, producing a winners league. BESt Investment, meanwhile, has now turned its attention to pensions — a notoriously complex sector — with a survey of the top performers for every type of customer.**

Pensions offer better value for money, on average, than personal equity plans, in spite of their complicated charging structure and large redemption penalties, according to new research.

The news will be of great interest to investors with more than £50,000 invested in personal equity plans (Peps) and Tessas. This is because, unless the Government raises the proposed £50,000 investment limit, they will be unable to transfer their entire holding into the new Individual Savings Account when the Isa is introduced in 1999 and will be looking for a new home for their money.

Research from BESt Investment has concluded that pension charges overall are not excessive, considering the product's complexity and regulatory requirements.

"The results were a surprise to us," said John Turton, BESt's head of pensions. "We really expected to find that Peps were cheaper. However, if you compare the average 5 per cent Pep initial charge plus 1.5 per cent annual charge with the 4 per cent initial and 1.25 per cent annual charges on the best of the pensions, the difference is clear."

Best buys included Equitable Life, Merchant Investors, Edinburgh Fund Managers and plans from Skandia and Winterthur.

BESt Investment found that for a pension the average reduction in yield (RIY), a figure that measures the effect of charges, such as commission, on fund performance was 1.6 per cent, while the RIY for unit trust Peps is 1.9 per cent.

"Many plans still involve large penalties for early termination, so careful selection is vital," said Mr Turton.

High charges are not necessarily an indication of more value for money, he said. The lowest RIY for £25,000 single-premium plans over ten years was 0.6 per cent, while the highest was 3.1 per cent, a difference of 2.5 percentage points.

Over five years, the worst managed pension fund — GAN Foreign & Colonial — generated an annualised return of 7.4 per cent. The best, Skandia Morgan Grenfell, generated a 15.5 per cent return.

The researchers found that, in the case of UK Equity funds, the difference was even more marked. The worst, Equitable Special Situations, achieved 6.9 per cent a year, while the best, Skandia Fidelity Special Situations, achieved a return of 21.8 per cent.

Important points to remember when choosing a plan include:

☐ Good across-the-board performance. Over-reliance on a single fund is dangerous because the management is likely to change during the life of your plan. "A good example of this was M&G, which performed outstandingly well, had its fund managers poached, and went rapidly downhill," says Mr Turton. "We would say to people once they have around £15,000 with one fund manager, they should begin investing with a rival."

☐ If a pension is vital to your family's welfare, look carefully at features that provide protection (for example: protection against bankruptcy, being written in trust and having waiver of premiums).

☐ Some plans offered by "institutional" fund managers, such as Gartmore and Mercury, lack features covering bankruptcy and illness.

The best buys for single contributions up to £5,000 are Equitable and Merchant Investors; for £5,000 to £20,000, Edinburgh FM, Merchant Investors and Royal & SunAlliance; and for more than £20,000, Edinburgh FM, Merchant Investors, Skandia and Winterthur.

The best buys for regular contributions up to £250 a month are Equitable and Merchant Investors; for £250 to £1,000 a month, Edinburgh FM and Merchant Investors; and for more than £1,000 a month, Edinburgh FM, Merchant Investors, Skandia and Winterthur.

☐ *BESt Pension normally costs £25, but Weekend Money readers can obtain it for £9.99 by calling 0171-321 0100 with a credit card or by writing, with a cheque, to BESt Investment, 20 Masons Yard, Duke Street, St James's, London SW1Y 6BU.*

# Pop into Peps while there's still time

As the personal equity plan season gets under way, *Which?* is putting forward a strong case for investing in Peps before they are consigned to the financial scrap heap in 14 months' time.

In the February issue *Which?* compares more than 350 equity and corporate bond unit trust Peps and selects the best buys from five different sectors, all of which show consistent performance. *Which?* used four different five-year periods to work out the performance and risk ratings for the funds and warns investors to be wary of claims made by fund managers about their fund's performance. "The manager is likely to focus only on periods over which the fund has done well," it says.

The highest scoring fund in the UK growth and income sector is the Newton Foundation. The fund was given top marks for performance over four five-year periods. The Newton Foundation is also rated as one of the least risky. Investors need a minimum of £1,000 to invest as a lump sum or £50 if they plan to save on a monthly basis. However, there is an annual charge of 1.25 per cent.

Perpetual Income and Schroder UK Equity follow on closely. Both are rated highly on performance but slightly lower for risk. One of the key attractions of the Perpetual Income Pep is that you need only a £500 lump sum or £20 a month to get one. Schroder UK Equity, however, requires you to part with £3,000 or £50 a month.

The star players in the UK equity growth sector are Jupiter UK Growth and Schroder UK Enterprise. Both record the same scores for performance and risk and levy the same annual charge of 1.5 per cent. However, as expected, the Schroders fund requires a much larger lump sum deposit of £3,000 than its Jupiter counterpart, which asks for £1,000. But if you are planning to invest monthly, the minimum investment is the same at £50.

David Aaron, a financial adviser in the David Aaron Partnership, also names Jupiter UK Growth as one of the firm's top 50 Peps.

Morgan Grenfell UK Equity Income is the winner in the UK equity income league. It scores top marks for both risk and performance, but it is one of the lower yielding ones in this category.

SUSAN EMMETT


GUINNESS FLIGHT

GUINNESS FLIGHT SELECTOR PEP

Great Britain Great Performance.

UK Equity Income: +146.9% over 5 years
1st decile over 1 and 5 years†

With the UK equity market doing so well, it's a good time to take a look at the Guinness Flight Selector PEP with its attractive UK based options including the UK Equity Income Portfolio Trust, highlighted above, for income and growth, the UK Opportunities Trust for growth and the Income Share Trust for income. The Selector PEP has 9 further options, among them the popular Global Privatisation Trust, the very cautious Sterling Bond Portfolio Trust, and the adventurous Hong Kong & China Trust. Call today to receive details of a PEP that can suit any investment need today, and promises a free ISA conversion for tomorrow.

FREE ISA* PEP › ISA ROLLOVER

| | |
|---|---|
| UK Equity Income: + 30.1% 1997, 19.8% p.a. over 5 years | ✓ |
| UK Opportunities: + 24.6% 1997, 20.8% p.a. over 5 years | ✓ |
| Income Share: + 28.9% 1997, yield 7.5%† | ✓ |
| Low 2% initial charge, no exit fee, no switch charge | ✓ |

GUINNESS FLIGHT
INTELLIGENT INVESTMENT

CALL FREE 0800 779 092 24 hours
Reference 3667

or simply complete the coupon and return to "FREEPOST GUINNESS FLIGHT" (no stamp or further address details needed). Please send me details of the Guinness Flight Selector PEP.

Title Initials Surname

Address

Postcode

†Trusts' performance. Source: Standard & Poor's Micropal, offer to offer, gross income reinvested to 1.1.98; UK Equity Income top decile performance in Standard & Poor's Micropal UK Equity Income Sector. Since launch performance: Income Share (18.4.94) 58.6%. UK Opportunities 5 year performance: 152.6%. ††Estimated, gross of tax, net of charges, as at 2.1.98. *Regulations permitting. Past performance is not necessarily a guide to the future. Fluctuations in the value of the underlying securities and the income from them and changes in interest and exchange rates mean that the value of these investments and the income from them may fall as well as rise and are not guaranteed. Please note that the Government intends to replace PEPs with "ISAs" in April 1999. The tax advantages of ISAs may or may not be as favourable as those of PEPs. For your protection, telephone calls may be recorded. Issued by Guinness Flight Fund Managers Limited, regulated by IMRO.

3667/98



THE DEATH TAX
How To Avoid It

Inheritance Tax is charged at a flat rate of 40%. If all your assets are worth £500,000 the tax bill could be £114,000. *Is that too much to pay?*

Fortunately, there are many ways to reduce or avoid this liability. If you want to know more:

TALK TO TOWRY LAW TODAY
*'tomorrow' may be too late*
Phone 0345 88 99 33

or complete the coupon below to put us in touch.

ACT BEFORE MARCH 17 BUDGET

*Levels and bases of and reliefs from, taxation are subject to change; any tax reliefs referred to are those currently applying and their value depends on the individual circumstances of the investor.*

TOWRY LAW FINANCIAL SERVICES LIMITED
*REGULATED BY THE PERSONAL INVESTMENT AUTHORITY*
Towry Law House, 57 High Street, Windsor, SL4 1LX

TOWRY LAW FINANCIAL SERVICES LTD
FREEPOST, SLOUGH, SL1 3ZY.
Fax: 01753 558220. E-mail: info@towrylaw.com

The Death Tax - How to Avoid it.
Please contact me to arrange a free consultation, without obligation.

Name Address

Postcode

Age: Self Spouse Telephone

TOWRY LAW 40 YEARS 1958 - 98

7978/98



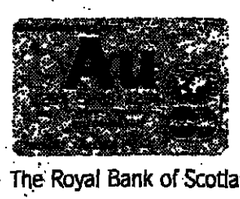
Consider it.

9.9% APR balance transfers for 12 months

13.9% APR standard rate

Compare it.

| Card | Annual Fee | APR | Au saving over 1 year |
|---|---|---|---|
| Au Gold MasterCard | Nil | 9.9% | N/A |
| Barclays standard Visa | £10 | 22.0% | £215.20 |
| NatWest standard Visa | £12 | 20.8% | £195.00 |
| Midland standard MasterCard | £12 | 20.6% | £192.00 |



Get it ?

Au is a new kind of Gold MasterCard from The Royal Bank of Scotland. If you earn at least £20,000 a year and you want to know more, call 0800 000 197.

0800 000 197

Quote Ref. U556

Au. Not everyone gets it. Will you?

Note: Unavailable to persons under 21 years of age. Written quotations are available. Subject to status. Cardholder is required to make monthly payments within 25 days of statement date of at least the minimum sum specified on statement, which shall not be less than 5% of the outstanding balance or £5, whichever is greater, or the full amount due if less than £5. Current rates as at 1 December 1997. *Above savings are based on transferring a balance of £2,000, which remains constant for a year. Balance transfer rate 9.9% APR fixed for 12 months, standard rate 13.9% APR variable. The above APRs include the annual fee where applied. The Au card balance transfer rate is shown. The rates for all other cards are their standard rates and exclude any short term special offers. APRs are based on a credit limit of £3,500.

RBS Cards reserve the right to offer you a similar card, Au2, with a standard APR of 16.9% variable and a balance transfer rate of 13.9% fixed APR for the first 12 months and no annual fee, if you do not qualify for the lower rate card.

RBS Cards Limited. Registered Office: 42 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 2YE. Registered in Scotland Number 160 111. A Royal Bank of Scotland Company.

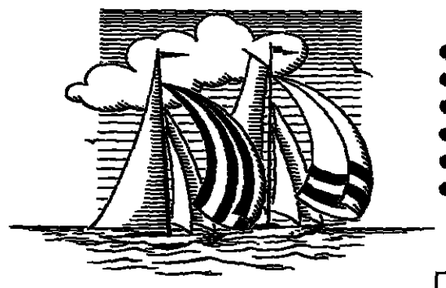


The offshore investment that's all plain sailing

WE OFFER SOME OF THE MOST COMPETITIVE RATES AVAILABLE OFFSHORE!

UP TO 7.80% GROSS P.A.

30 OR 60 DAYS NOTICE ☑ OFFSHORE ☑



ACCOUNT FEATURES

- Highly competitive interest rates.
- Earn up to 7.80% gross p.a.
- Minimum balance £10,000.
- Choice of interest payment options.
- Operate your account by telephone, post or facsimile.
- Access to your savings with just 30 or 60 days notice.

LOOK AT THE RETURN

| Balance | Annual Interest Rate % Gross | | Monthly Interest Rate % Gross | | Compound Annual Rate % Gross | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 60 Days | 30 Days | 60 Days | 30 Days | 60 Days | 30 Days |
| £250,000 + | 7.80% | 7.60% | 7.53% | 7.35% | 7.80% | 7.60% |
| £100,000 - £249,999 | 7.70% | 7.50% | 7.44% | 7.25% | 7.70% | 7.50% |
| £50,000 - £99,999 | 7.65% | 7.25% | 7.39% | 7.02% | 7.65% | 7.25% |
| £25,000 - £49,999 | 7.55% | 7.05% | 7.30% | 6.83% | 7.56% | 7.05% |
| £10,000 - £24,999 | 7.50% | 6.90% | 7.25% | 6.69% | 7.50% | 6.90% |

First National Building Society Guernsey Limited is a subsidiary of First National Building Society, which was founded in 1861 and is one of the longest established building societies in the United Kingdom and Ireland.

Consider the benefits of a First National 30 or 60 Day Notice Postal Account.

Your money will grow faster thanks to highly competitive interest rates and a favourable tax climate (your interest will be paid gross without deduction of withholding tax). And you will enjoy the convenience and confidentiality of postal banking.

FIRST NATIONAL
BUILDING SOCIETY GUERNSEY LIMITED

First National Building Society Guernsey Limited,
P.O. Box 458, St. Peter Port, Guernsey, Channel Islands, GY1 6AE

INFORMATION HOTLINE:

0800 004567

CALLS ARE FREE

AF02

Lines open Monday to Friday 9.00a.m. to 5.00p.m.

First National Building Society Guernsey Limited is a wholly-owned subsidiary of First National Building Society. First National Building Society Guernsey Limited has its registered office and principal place of business at 2/3 Rue de Pré, St Peter Port, Guernsey, Channel Islands GY1 6AE and is licensed under the Banking Supervision (Bailiwick of Guernsey) Law, 1994 as amended. The paid-up share capital of First National Building Society Guernsey Limited amounts to £7 million. Latest Audited accounts are available for inspection upon request. Deposits made with offices of First National Building Society Guernsey Limited in Guernsey are not covered by the Deposit Protection Scheme under the UK Banking Act 1987. Interest rates may vary and are correct at time of going to press. Interest is calculated on a daily basis and will accrue from the date of clearance of the funds up to but not including the date of withdrawal. CAR - Compounded Annual Rate is the annual rate of return on your investment if monthly interest payments are retained in the account. Immediate access to funds available subject to 30 or 60 days loss of interest on funds withdrawn.



**OMAHA ONION 52**

Graham Searjeant unpeels the layers of Warren Buffett

# WEEKEND MONEY

**NET PROFIT 50**

Computer share dealing hooks working mum



A new tax rate is likely in big changes on March 17, says **Caroline Merrell**

# Upheaval ahead in Budget



Gordon Brown and Sarah Macaulay may find London outings dearer under his tax moves

Next month's Budget, now just 38 days away, is widely rumoured to contain far-ranging reforms, with special help for the low paid and changes to family credit.

Middle-income households stand to gain from the introduction of a 10 per cent lower rate of tax, now seen as a racing certainty, but this will be offset by the loss of tax relief on investments. The Chancellor is expected to announce in his Budget, on March 17, the finalised details of the Individual Savings Account (Isa), the less attractive replacement for tax-free Peps and Tessas.

A strong environmental theme may mean an increase of as much as 27p on petrol duties and a tax on company car-parking spaces. According to one source, London motorists may face an extra £400 in car tax for using their vehicles in London, making it a handy economy for Gordon Brown and his girlfriend, Sarah Macaulay, to walk to their rendezvous.

Virtually all areas of personal taxation are under review, including income tax, inheritance tax and capital gains tax. National Insurance may also be under scrutiny, because the Government has long indicated that it wants to reform NI to help lower-paid people.

Tax avoidance will also be in the spotlight, with a crackdown on the black economy, a tightening of rules on offshore tax havens and a look at taxation for non-UK residents all expected to be included in the Budget. Twenty new measures to prevent tax avoidance are believed to be on the agenda.

The Finance Bill containing the proposals of Mr Brown's second Budget seems set to be at least 200 pages long. Inland Revenue officials, who have been concentrating on tax simplification, have been pulled back from their work to ensure that the Bill is drafted on time.

Perhaps the most important change for Britain's 26 million taxpayers may be the introduction of the long-promised 10 per cent income tax rate. The 10 per cent rate, aimed at helping the low paid, is one of the more controversial elements of the Government's plans. Accountants argue that cutting the 20 per cent rate to 10 per cent would be most beneficial to those that earn the most. If this measure is carried out, a taxpayer earning £30,000 a year would save £410 in tax while someone earning £7,000 a year would save only £295.

Maurice Fitzpatrick, of Chantrey Vellacott, the accountancy firm, believes that the Government favours allowing the first £1,000 of taxable income to be taxed at 10 per cent. He said: "This would cost the Government about £2 billion. Gordon Brown may not want to go any further as this could put pressure on the Bank of England to put up interest rates." Such a change on just the first £1,000 of taxable income would put an extra £100 a year in the pockets of those earning more than £8,145.

Family credit, the benefit for those on low wages, may also be the subject of Budget reform. It is currently paid to those who earn less than £77 a week. The basic benefit is worth £47.65 per family per week, and additional benefits of between £12 and £34 per week are also paid for each dependent child.

Instead, the Government wants to bring in working-family tax credit (WFTC). Under this system, the worker in the family, typically the man, would receive the benefit in the form of a lower tax bill. This system is used in America to help low-income families.

Mr Brown points out that, in the UK, only 300,000 benefit from family credit, while in America 18 million benefit from the tax credit.

One strong argument against a WFTC is that the total family income, rather than an individual's income, would have to be used when calculating the benefit, bringing with it the possibility of scrapping independent taxation of husbands and wives.

Mr Fitzpatrick believes that although the Government is in favour of reforming family credit in this way, which has the handy effect of reducing public spending as a percentage of GDP, it will find it difficult to reverse the rules on independent taxation. He said: "I think that all that will happen is that the Department of Social Security and the Inland Revenue will have to work together."

Reform of family credit is an early steps towards integrating the tax and benefits systems. Martin Taylor, the Barclays chief executive, who is heading a Government-appointed task force on reform of the tax and benefits systems, told a Commons committee last week that his task force did not see a "big bang" integration of the systems as necessary or desirable.

Mr Taylor told MPs that he believed that there was a powerful case for replacing the US family credit benefit with a British version. He emphasised that there was no question of importing the American system "lock, stock and barrel".

Final plans for the Isa will also be unveiled in the Budget. The Isa will replace Peps and Tessas, and the proposals for it have attracted a deluge of criticism. One particular focus of objections has been the £50,000 lifetime limit for tax-free saving.

Offshore trusts, such as those operated for Geoffrey Robinson, the millionaire Paymaster General, are also likely to suffer some form of taxation.

Capital gains tax (CGT) and inheritance tax are also expected to be reformed. The Government appears to favour a CGT regime that will encourage long-term investment. Currently, each individual can make £6,500 a year in capital gains before tax is charged. A new system would mean people holding their investments for a long time would pay less tax when they sold them.

## Enjoy bit of relief while you can

THE usual pre-Budget tax planning flurry is poised to be more frenzied than usual this year, with a rush to use concessions and reliefs that the Chancellor could be looking to abolish:

☐ Higher-rate pension relief is seen as one of the tax breaks that is under threat. The taxman allows you to contribute up to 15 per cent of your salary to a company scheme and from 17.5 to 40 per cent (depending on your age) to a personal pension.

☐ You can invest £6,000 each tax year in a general personal equity plan (Pep) and a further £3,000 in a single company Pep. These allowances will be withdrawn in April 1999, when Isas are introduced. For best-buy Peps see page 63.

☐ Inheritance tax is payable on estates worth more than £215,000. The wealthy can minimise the final bill by giving away assets during their lifetime using the potential exempt transfer (PET) concessions. No tax is payable provided that the donor survives for seven years. PETs could be targeted in the Budget.

☐ The annual capital gains tax £6,500 exemption could also be in the Chancellor's sights. Those whose shares have risen in value in the stock market boom should ask their stockbroker's advice about bed and breakfasting their holdings to use this year's allowance.

# Saving for borrowers

Halifax, the UK's biggest lender, this week announced it is to abolish the mortgage indemnity insurance fee on most of its loans. Other lenders are reviewing their indemnity cover policies this weekend in light of the move.

The Halifax's decision will mean a saving of £363 on a £60,000 loan, where the borrower has a 15 per cent deposit. But borrowers who have less than a 10 per cent deposit will have to continue to pay the fee. The bank claims that the insurance premiums for those who have to continue to pay will not be loaded.

The bigger the loan, the larger the saving will be. For instance, a borrower with a £100,000 loan and a 10 per cent deposit will save £1,020.

Mortgage indemnity insurance has a controversial history. The policy protects lenders against costs incurred if a property has to be repossessed. Although borrowers have to pay the premiums, the lender benefits. This practice attracted criticism three years ago, when repossessions were at their height. As well as benefiting from the proceeds of the insurance, lenders also then pursued the borrowers for the costs of repossessions through the courts.

John Miller, Halifax executive director, said: "This latest enhancement to our mortgage package means that buying a home is now more affordable than ever."

A recent survey from Clark Conway, the London mortgage broker, showed that the costs of the indemnity insurance varies widely between different lenders. Abbey National charges its borrowers the most. A borrower who had a 5 per cent deposit would have to pay more than £1,000 in indemnity insurance on a £50,000 loan. Bradford & Bingley would charge £905 on a similar loan, while Bristol & West would charge £789. The insurance is required by the lender if a homebuyer needs a mortgage worth more than 75 per cent of the value of property. Only the C&G, now owned by Lloyds, had to date scrapped the indemnity premium entirely.

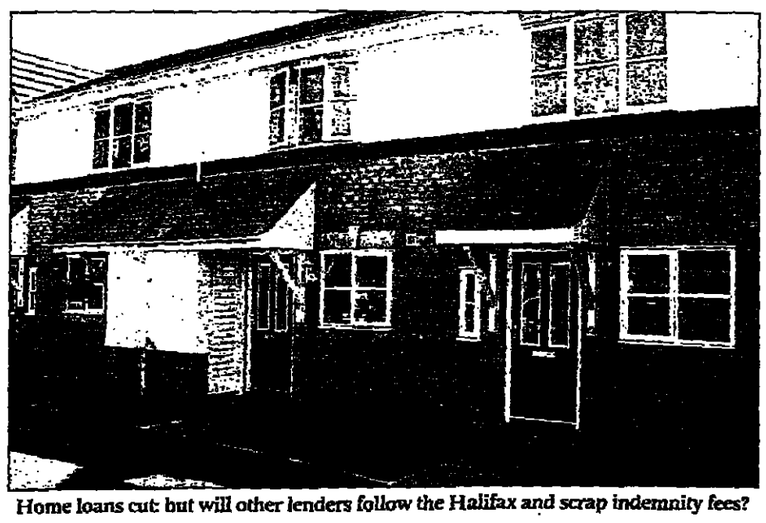
Many lenders now add the premium to the loan, which means that the real cost of the insurance is many times higher.

Mortgage indemnity fees rose sharply at the beginning of this decade as the number of repossessions increased. The insurers, which included Eagle Star, were forced to put up the costs of premiums because they faced big losses on the policies.

However, although repossessions have now halved from their peak, premiums continue to be high. Alistair Conway, of Clark Conway, said that he found it difficult to understand why lenders could justify charging borrowers for the insurance.

On the Halifax move, he said: "We are delighted. I am staggered that they have taken this move. Why have they stopped at 90 per cent borrowing? I think they should have moved it to 95 per cent, so most first time buyers would be included."

CAROLINE MERRELL



Home loans cut: but will other lenders follow the Halifax and scrap indemnity fees?

## INSIDE



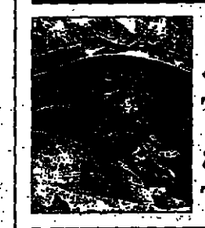

**50** Anne Ashworth on best buy listings

**INVESTMENT**

**52** How to awaken a dormant account



**SAVINGS**



**55** The best fixed and variable rate Tessas

**WEEKEND MONEY GUIDES**

Part 1 Millennium investing




**BUSINESS NEWS PAGES 26-31**


WEEKEND MONEY is edited by Anne Ashworth

Watch out for pension companies whose high charges could eat up the tax gift meant for you.
Our charges are amongst the lowest you can find.
After all, it is your retirement you're saving for.

To get your personal pension sorted, call us today.

direct

0345 900 900

Open seven days a week from 8am to 10pm

Virgin Direct Personal Financial Service Ltd is regulated by the Personal Investment Authority. The price of units and any income from them can go down as well as up and you may not get back the amount you invest. The basis of tax may change and the value of the tax benefit depends on how much tax you pay. For your security all calls to Virgin Direct are recorded and randomly monitored.